



CITY OF ABERDEEN.

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# REPORT

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1947



Acad 10

With the Compliments of the Medical  
Officer of Health.

CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
ABERDEEN.





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PRINTED BY G. CORNWALL & SONS.

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MCMXLIX.

## CITY OF ABERDEEN.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1942-1947:—

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
*Population estimated to middle of year	164,100	159,162	159,263	163,108	176,939	187,751
Marriage rate per 1,000 population . . .	11·3	9·5	9·1	12·5	11·9	11·1
Birth-rate per 1,000 population . . .	16·1	16·0	16·5	15·5	20·4	22·0
Illegitimate birth-rate per 100 births . .	8·5	8·9	9·2	10·0	7·0	5·9
Infantile mortality rate . . . . .	67	68	57	54	42	64
Death-rate per 1,000 population . . .	13·6	14·1	12·9	12·8	12·0	11·9
Malignant diseases death-rate . . . .	1·87	1·89	1·67	1·77	1·75	1·77
All tuberculosis death-rate per 1,000 population . . . . .	0·65	0·63	0·69	0·52	0·47	0·41
Pulmonary tuberculosis death-rate per 1,000 population . . . . .	0·46	0·46	0·48	0·43	0·40	0·35
Infectious and parasitic diseases death- rate (excluding tuberculosis) . . .	0·46	0·60	0·24	0·31	0·23	0·18
Average age at death (years) . . . .	57·9	57·5	58·4	59·6	60·3	57·3

\* Civilian population to 1946.

## PREFACE.

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The Annual Report for 1947 embraces the last complete year of the work of the Public Health Department prior to the coming into operation of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947. It is difficult to predict the full extent of the various health activities that will remain in the hands of Local Authorities, but there is no doubt that Local Authorities will, with increased vigour, strive to prevent disease and will concentrate on the Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Medical Services, on the care of the ageing and infirm, on the care of the mentally and physically handicapped, and on every requirement for preserving the health of the people.

A survey of this report will show the lines which the Corporation have adopted to develop their health services, but the report will have failed in its purpose if its perusal fails to show that communal health demands an earnest endeavour on the part of every individual citizen. It is too seldom recognised that no health machine, however perfect in administration, can act successfully without the whole-hearted co-operation of every member in the community.

The Registrar-General estimated the population of Aberdeen in 1947 to be Population. 187,751. The estimated civilian population in 1946 was 176,939.

The birth-rate in 1947 was 22·0 per thousand of the population, as compared Birth-rate. with 20·4 in 1946. In 1945 the birth-rate was 15·5, which was the lowest birth-rate on record.

The birth-rates for all Scotland were 22·0 in 1947, 20·3 in 1946, and 16·9 in 1945. Immediately after the First World War, in 1920, the birth-rate for Scotland was 28·1.

The general death-rate was 11·9 in 1947, as compared with 12·0 in 1946. For General Death-rate. all Scotland, the general death-rate in 1947 was 12·9, and, in 1946, it was 13·1.

In Aberdeen, the average age at death was 57·3 years in 1947, as compared with 60·3 years in 1946.

In 1947, the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 35 per 100,000 of Tuberculosis population, and from non-pulmonary tuberculosis it was 6. The corresponding Death-rate. rates in 1946 were 40 and 7 respectively.

For all Scotland, in 1947, the death-rate for pulmonary tuberculosis was 66, and for non-pulmonary tuberculosis it was 14.

The relatively favourable position of Aberdeen as regards tuberculosis mortality is in part due to the fact that there is an adequacy of beds for tuberculous cases, and this is largely due to the fact that the beds are provided partly at the City (Fever) Hospital and at Woodend (General) Hospital. Where institutions are earmarked entirely for the treatment of tuberculosis, there is great difficulty in the recruitment of nurses. Then, again, when applicants for Council houses are certified by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer to be suffering from "open" or infectious tuberculosis, an appropriate medical assessment is given by the Medical Officer of Health to enable these applicants to obtain Council houses of sufficient size to enable the patient to have a room to himself.

So far as tuberculosis mortality is concerned, Aberdeen has held an enviable position for a number of years. For example, in Dundee, in 1947, the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 82 per 100,000, and from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 11.

#### Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality rate in 1947 was 64 per thousand births, as compared with 42 in 1946. The rate for all Scotland was 56 in 1947 and 54 in 1946.

Throughout Scotland, in 1947, gastro-enteritis was prevalent amongst infants, and this accounted mainly for the increased infantile mortality rate in Aberdeen. An analysis of the deaths from gastro-enteritis appears in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

In Aberdeen, in 1947, the neo-natal death-rate or the death-rate of children during the first month of life was 26, as compared with 28·5 for all Scotland. In 1946, the neo-natal death-rates for Aberdeen and all Scotland were 24 and 30 respectively.

#### Infectious Diseases.

As was the case in 1946, the incidence of the ordinary infectious diseases was remarkably low in 1947. The mortality from the principal epidemic diseases was 0·07 per thousand of the population, this being the same rate as prevailed in 1946.

The record which was established in 1946 in connection with diphtheria mortality was maintained in 1947. No deaths from this disease were recorded either in 1946 or in 1947. This very satisfactory result has undoubtedly been largely due to the intensive immunisation campaign which has been conducted both in connection with pre-school and school children. In the decennium, 1937-1946, the average annual number of deaths from diphtheria was 13.

On 4th July, 1947, several individuals in various parts of the City were affected with an acute enteritis (food poisoning). The cases for the most part occurred singly in their respective households. It was not possible to give any idea of the exact number of those affected, but, from enquiries made amongst medical practitioners, it was ascertained that many practitioners had several such cases in their practice. Several patients in Newhills Sanatorium in the County of Aberdeen were also affected, and one old man who was admitted from this institution to the City Hospital died there. This was the only known fatal case, but several secondary



cases were found amongst immediate contacts. The disease was fairly acute, but most of the sufferers were fully convalescent again in a matter of two or three days.

Specimens of faeces received from various practitioners all showed the presence of *Salmonella*-type aertrycke.

The infectious diseases health visitor visited the various households, but could find no common source of infection. Particular enquiries were made concerning the consumption of dried eggs, milk, ice-cream, and bakery products, but there was no evidence of any common source of supply.

During 1947, 12 whole-time midwives were in the service of the Corporation in terms of the Maternity Services (Scotland) Act, 1937, whereby any expectant mother who made application to the Corporation could have the services of a doctor and of a midwife. Forty-nine medical practitioners in the City participated in this scheme. Domiciliary Midwifery.

Full advantage was taken of the facilities provided at the Ante-natal Annexe of the Maternity Hospital, Foresterhill, and of the maternity units at Queen's Cross and Fonthill Maternity Homes and at Summerfield Hospital. Institutional Midwifery.

The number of health visitors employed by the Corporation in 1947 was 23. Most of these participate in both maternity and child welfare services and in school work. In addition, three health visitors were employed under the Tuberculosis Scheme and one health visitor was reserved for the visitation of cases suffering from infectious diseases. Health Visitors.

An organised Domestic Help Service was established by the Corporation in March, 1946. At the end of 1947, the Corporation had in its employment 12 domestic helps. This service is becoming increasingly popular, and, in the near future, will be very largely expanded. Its main value lies in the domestic assistance given to households where the mother is in hospital, where there is need for continued assistance in the home as in the case of the chronic sick, and where post-institutional domestic assistance is required. When the Domestic Help Service is fully established, it will assist in the curtailment of the institutional stay, especially of mothers. Domestic Help Service.

The School Medical Services are dealt with in a special section of this report. The school year ends on 31st July, and, consequently, the statement on this subject does not cover the same period as the rest of this report. School Medical Services.

In connection with the Mental Health Services, it must again be stressed that the institutional accommodation for the mentally handicapped—both educable and ineducable—is totally inadequate, not only in this area, but throughout Scotland. Adequate provision for these cases should be made without delay. Mental Health Services.

General.

I have again to put on record my thanks to members of the Public Health and other Committees for their assistance and sympathy in schemes submitted for their consideration. I also wish to thank all the members of my staff for their loyal assistance during the year.

HARRY J. RAE,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,

4, ALBYN PLACE,

ABERDEEN, 15th January, 1949.

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## CITY OF ABERDEEN.

### REPORT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*For the year 1947.*

#### CHAPTER I.

##### INFECTIOUS DISEASES—MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY.

###### General.

In 1947, the outstanding variations in the number of infectious cases brought to the notice of the Public Health Department, as compared with the previous year, were as under:—

	1947	1946	Increase	Decrease
Dysentery . . . . .	13	100	—	87
Diphtheria . . . . .	9	68	—	59
Scarlet Fever . . . . .	205	465	—	260
Acute Primary Pneumonia . . . . .	404	379	25	—
Acute Poliomyelitis . . . . .	48	1	47	—
* Measles . . . . .	527	500	27	—
* Whooping Cough . . . . .	176	151	25	—

\* Measles and whooping cough are not compulsorily notifiable in Scotland and are usually reported to the Public Health Department by school welfare officers, teachers, and medical practitioners. The figures for these diseases are, therefore, not complete and are not true indices of their incidence.

###### Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Of this disease, 12 cases with 2 deaths were notified in 1947 as compared with 28 cases and no deaths in 1946. In one of the fatal cases—a child of 13 years—diagnosis was made after death, the child having died suddenly at home. In the other fatal case—a female adult—the patient suffered also from diabetes.

###### Chickenpox.

During 1947, 23 cases of this disease were brought to the knowledge of the Public Health Department. This disease is not at present compulsorily notifiable.

###### Cholera.

No cases of this disease have been reported in Aberdeen.

### Continued Fever (Undulant).

In 1947, 3 cases of undulant fever were notified and received institutional treatment. There were no deaths.

### Diphtheria.

Since 1943, there has been a definite decrease in the number of cases, and especially during 1946 and 1947, when the confirmed cases fell to 68 and 9 respectively. In the decennium 1937-1946 the average annual number of cases was 327.

It is gratifying to report that there were no deaths from diphtheria during 1947. This is the second year on record during which Aberdeen has been free from diphtheria deaths, there being also no deaths during 1946.

Of the 9 cases in 1947, 3 occurred in children in the age-group under five years, 2 of whom had not been immunised; the remaining case in this age-group was a child of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years who had been inoculated by the medical attendant before reaching the age of 1 year. In the age-group 5-15 years there were 4 cases, each of whom had received a first series of inoculations consisting of two injections, but it has to be noted that in 2 cases the period which had elapsed between inoculation and onset of diphtheria was 6 years; in another case 5 years had elapsed, and in the remaining case the child had been immunised one year previously.

Of contacts examined bacteriologically, none of the swabbings gave positive findings in 1947. In the decennium 1937-1946 the percentage was 1.6.

Chart I gives the attack incidence, the case mortality, and death-rate from 1882 to 1947.

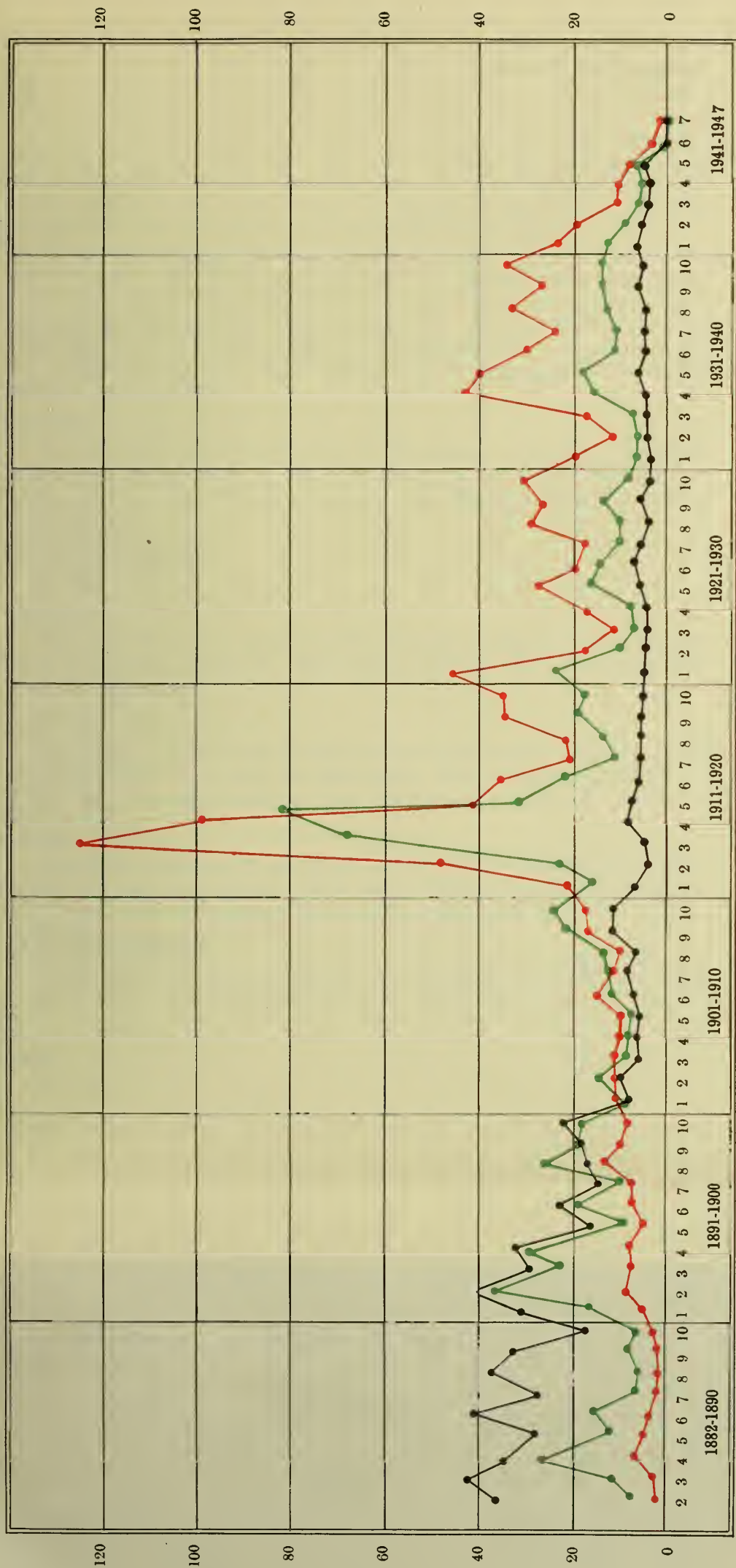
### Diphtheria Immunisation.

As has been stated in previous reports, in 1936 the Town Council authorised the re-introduction of a campaign in connection with active immunisation against diphtheria in children of school and pre-school ages. In 1940, the Department of Health for Scotland insisted on all Local Authorities providing free facilities for immunisation of children against diphtheria.

In addition to the immunisation of school children up to school leaving age, facilities are extended for immunisation of pre-school children at the several Child Welfare Centres throughout the City, at Nursery Schools and at the Centre at the City Hospital.

At the end of June, 1947, 21,270 children of school age were known to have been fully immunised against diphtheria, *i.e.*, 88.4 per cent. of the children attending Primary and Secondary Schools (including Robert Gordon's College). In addition, 250 or 1.0 per cent. of children of school age were known to have been partially immunised (*i.e.*, had received one inoculation), so that at least 89.4 per cent. of the children in the schools have some protection against diphtheria. Taking into account the indefinite number who have been immunised by family doctors, it is estimated that at least 90 per cent. of children of school age in Aberdeen have now been immunised against diphtheria. It may be pointed out that, during the present immunisation scheme, two injections of prophylactic material are administered.





**DIPHTHERIA** — { Attack Incidence (per 10,000 of population)  
Case Mortality (per 100 cases)  
Deaths per 100,000 of population } in each year 1882-1947.





With regard to pre-school children, the estimated pre-school population between the ages of 6 months and 5 years is 13,000. Up to 30th June, 1947, 5,466 or 42 per cent. of pre-school children were fully immunised.

As the conferred immunity is liable to wane with the passage of time—especially amongst children not yet at school—children who have been inoculated as pre-school children should have a further immunising inoculation when they enter school, and another between 8 and 9 years of age. At the end of June, 1947, it has to be recorded that 4,654 such children were re-inoculated at the schools.

The greatly increased response to the offer of a third injection, mainly to the eight-year olds, is very encouraging and is a sign that the fear of inoculation present in the minds of some parents and children in the earlier days of the campaign is passing away. Inoculation is harmless to the child, and re-inoculation will, to a marked degree, decrease the likelihood of contracting the disease, and will carry the child through the susceptible years of life with a very strong promise of complete protection from diphtheria.

#### **Dysentery.**

In 1947, there were 13 notifications of this disease, as compared with 100 in 1946, and an average annual of 237 in the decennium 1937-1946. There were no deaths in 1946 and 1947. In the preceding decennium, the average annual number of deaths was 4.

#### **Encephalitis Lethargica.**

No cases in 1947.

#### **Erysipelas.**

There were 65 cases of erysipelas in 1947, as compared with an annual average of 105 in the preceding decennium. There were no deaths in 1947, as compared with an average of 2 deaths.

#### **Infective Jaundice.**

During the year, there were 6 confirmed cases of this disease. With one exception—a ragworker—all the cases were fishworkers. None of the cases proved fatal. In 1946, there were also 6 confirmed cases, and two of the cases proved fatal.

#### **Measles.**

Compulsory notification of this disease in Aberdeen was discontinued in 1903. In 1947, 527 cases were reported. There were 3 deaths, all in children under one year. During 1946, 500 cases were voluntarily notified, but none proved fatal.

#### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

During 1947, 7 cases of this disease were notified, and, of these, 1 was of gonococcal origin. In the 1937-1946 decennium, the average number of cases was 33.

#### **Plague.**

No cases.

### **Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal.**

Of this disease, 4 cases were notified in 1947, as compared with 13 cases in the preceding year. Two deaths were registered from this cause in 1947.

### **Pneumonia, Acute Primary.**

During 1947, 404 cases were notified. There were 53 deaths. During the preceding ten years, the average annual number of cases was 420, the average annual number of deaths being 55.

### **Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).**

The number of cases notified in the City in 1947 was 48, and, of these, 6 died, giving a mortality rate of 12·5 per cent. The last two City epidemics occurred in 1916 and in 1944. In 1916, there were notified 79 cases, of whom 4 died, and in 1944, 20 cases were notified, and there were 5 deaths.

This disease was epidemic throughout the country in 1947, and was the largest epidemic that had ever visited Britain. The total number of cases notified in Scotland was 1,698, but, of these, 264 were not confirmed as cases. For the whole of Scotland, the mortality rate was 9 per cent.

There is doubt as to the method of spread of poliomyelitis. It has been proved that the virus is excreted from the bowel, and it has actually been recovered from sewage. In the epidemic of 1947, however, it seemed probable that the virus was mainly transmitted as an airborne infection from the upper respiratory tract.

The periodicity of this disease is of considerable interest, and, in this connection, two theories have been advanced. The first theory is that an epidemic only occurs when a sufficient number of susceptible persons has accumulated in the community. If this be so, one would expect that a greater number of cases would occur amongst the new susceptibles introduced by birth since the previous epidemic; in other words, there would be a higher incidence in the lower age-groups. But this has not proved to be the case. Thus, the occurrence of non-immunes is not a factor in the production of epidemics. The second theory depends on the fact that mutation can occur in viruses. The 1947 type of virus may have differed from that of the 1916 and 1944 outbreaks.

SEASONAL INCIDENCE.—As will be seen from the following statement, the onset of the outbreak in Aberdeen occurred in July and the epidemic reached its peak in September:—

#### **POLIOMYELITIS—1947—MONTHLY INCIDENCE.**

	July	August	September	October	November	Total
Cases . . . .	6	10	22	8	2	48
Deaths . . . .	—	3	2	1	—	6

In the 1916 epidemic, the 79 cases occurred between the months of April and September. In the 1944 outbreak, the cases were notified between the months of July and September.

SEX AND AGE INCIDENCE.—The analysis of the cases and deaths in 1947 in the various age-groups is as follows:—

#### SEX AND AGE INCIDENCE.

	TOTAL.	Under 1 year.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.
Males . . . . .	27	1	17	8	—	1	—
Females . . . . .	21	—	7	9	3	1	1
Total Cases . . .	48	1	24	17	3	2	1
Percentage of Total	100	2.1	50.0	35.4	6.2	4.2	2.1

#### DEATHS.

Males . . . . .	4	—	2	2	—	—	—
Females . . . . .	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
Total Deaths . . .	6	—	3	2	—	—	1
Percentage of Total	100	—	50.0	33.3	—	—	16.7

As compared with the 1916 outbreak, a distinct change in the age-incidence trend is noticeable in the 1947 notifications, as is shown below:—

Year	Total Cases	Under 1 year		1-2 years		2-5 years		5-15 years		15-25 years		25 yrs. and over	
		No.	% of Total	No.	% of Total	No.	% of Total	No.	% of Total	No.	% of Total	No.	% of Total
1947	48	1	2.1	8	16.6	16	33.3	17	35.4	3	6.2	3	6.2
1916	79	17	21.5	6	33.0	29	36.7	7	8.8	—	—	—	—

As regards the fatal cases, in 1947 the ages at death were—Under 1 year, 0; 1-2 years, 1; 2-5 years, 2; 5-15 years, 2; 35-45 years, 1. In 1916, the deaths—4—all occurred in children under 1 year of age.

TYPES OF DISEASE.—The two types of disease recognised are non-paralytic and paralytic, the latter being classified according to the degree of paralysis and the site of the lesion. As will be seen in the analysis of the 1947 outbreak, given below, there were 16 cases in which there was no paralysis; changes characteristic of poliomyelitis, however, showed in the cerebro-spinal fluid and there were, in addition, clinical features typical of the disease. In the 1916 epidemic, it may be stated that each notified case had shown some degree of paralysis; in a few cases the paralysis was slight, in others, more pronounced and long continued. The four cases that died in 1916 showed varying degrees of limb paralysis, but the terminal signs, as in the fatal cases in 1947, were those of bulbar paralysis.

## DEGREE OF PARALYSIS (1947 OUTBREAK).

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-35 years	35-45 years
No Paralysis . . . . .	16	—	6	9	—	1	—
Slight Paralysis . . . . .	13	1	7	3	1	1	—
Moderate Paralysis . . . . .	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Severe Paralysis . . . . .	17 (6)	—	9 (3)	5 (2)	2	—	1 (1)
	48 (6)	1	24 (3)	17 (2)	3	2	1 (1)

## LOCATION OF PARALYSIS.

No Paralysis . . . . .	16	—	6	9	—	1	—
i. Cerebral . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ii. Bulbar . . . . .	12 (6)	1	6 (3)	4 (2)	—	—	1 (1)
iii. Upper Cervical . . . . .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
*ii. and iii. . . . .	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
iv. Lower Cervical . . . . .	4	—	3	1	—	—	—
v. Thoracic . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*iii, iv., and v. . . . .	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
vi. Lumbar or Sacral . . . . .	9	—	5	2	1	1	—
*iv. and vi. . . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
*v. and vi. . . . .	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
	48 (6)	1	24 (3)	17 (2)	3	2	1 (1)

\* Cases with more than one location.

Deaths in brackets.

In 1947 all the cases were removed to the City Hospital. Those cases that developed paralysis which did not readily respond to treatment there were transferred to Stracathro Hospital, Brechin, for special orthopaedic treatment. In that hospital the treatment was conducted under the direct supervision of the Orthopaedic Surgeons, Mr. Savill and Mr. Smillie.

**Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.**

During 1947, 75 cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia were brought to the notice of the department.

Among 42 confirmed cases of puerperal fever notified in 1947, 1 death occurred. The average number of cases and deaths in the preceding ten years was 38 and 3 respectively.

Of the total puerperal cases notified, 33 were ultimately classified as cases of puerperal pyrexia. In the preceding ten years, the average annual number of cases was 30.

For further details regarding puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia, reference should be made to the section of the report dealing with the Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

**Scabies.**

In 1947, 1,165 persons were treated for scabies or other skin affections at the City Hospital Cleansing Station, as compared with an annual average of 3,736 in the preceding five years.

### Scarlet Fever.

In 1947, 205 cases were notified, as against 465 in 1946. The disease continued to be of a mild type. Since 1943 there have been no deaths from this disease.

### Smallpox.

Aberdeen has remained free from smallpox since 1930.

### Vaccinia.

Of the children born in 1946, the proportion escaping vaccination under the Conscientious Objection Clause of the Vaccination (Scotland) Act, 1907, was 7.0 per cent.

### Tuberculosis.

There were notified in 1947 225 cases of tuberculosis—172 of pulmonary and 53 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis—as compared with an average annual of 144 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 56 non-pulmonary cases in the preceding decennium.

Of the 77 deaths in 1947, 65 were due to pulmonary tuberculosis, 12 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis, as against 75 and 22 respectively in the preceding decennium. A detailed analysis of the cases and deaths from tuberculosis in Aberdeen is given in the section relating to Tuberculosis Services.

### Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.

Six cases of typhoid fever were notified in 1947. Five of the six cases occurred in a mental institution, and there was one death.

### Typhus Fever.

No cases.

### Venereal Diseases.

A detailed analysis of these cases is given in the appropriate section.

### Whooping Cough.

During 1947, 176 cases were reported with 5 deaths, as against an average of 265 cases and 7 deaths in the preceding decennium. The deaths in 1947 occurred in children under two years of age.

Whooping cough immunisation among pre-school children is carried out at the various Child Welfare Centres. During 1947, the number of children so immunised was 2,545.

### TABLES I-III.

The following tables deal with the various infectious diseases. Table I shows the seasonal variations in the prevalence of each infectious disease, whether compulsorily notifiable or not. In Table II are given the morbidity and mortality from infectious diseases, distributed according to age, and also the location of treatment. In Table III, the cases and deaths are detailed for each of the years from 1937 to 1947:—



TABLE I.—PROGRESS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING  
TWELVE MONTHS—YEAR, 1947.

Disease.		1947.												Whole Year.
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	{ Cases	4	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	12
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
*Chickenpox	{ Cases	—	1	1	2	2	5	1	2	—	—	2	7	23
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever (Undulant)	{ Cases	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	{ Cases	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	9
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	{ Cases	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	1	5	13
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	{ Cases	10	11	8	5	3	3	4	9	3	4	2	3	65
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice, Acute	{ Cases	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	6
Infective	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	{ Cases	1	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	9
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Measles	{ Cases	274	135	37	21	8	3	1	2	3	11	13	19	527
	{ Deaths	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	{ Cases	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	7
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute	{ Cases	86	39	54	27	27	20	17	16	13	24	26	55	404
Primary	{ Deaths	11	7	11	6	2	1	3	1	2	2	—	7	53
Pneumonia	{ Cases	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Acute	{ Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Influenzal	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	10	22	8	2	—	48
Poliomyelitis,	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	6
Acute	{ Cases	6	3	4	—	3	4	2	4	4	3	6	3	42
	{ Deaths	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	{ Cases	9	5	4	5	3	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	33
	{ Deaths	37	26	19	21	6	7	11	5	13	22	26	12	205
Scarlet Fever	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis,	{ Cases	12	12	14	15	19	17	16	20	4	9	24	10	172
Pulmonary	{ Deaths	8	5	6	8	4	10	5	8	1	3	3	4	65
Tuberculosis,	{ Cases	4	3	3	3	9	5	6	3	4	3	5	5	53
Non-pulmonary	{ Deaths	3	—	—	2	3	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	12
	{ Cases	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6
Typhoid Fever	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Para-Typhoid	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A.	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Whooping Cough	{ Cases	25	24	30	22	25	8	1	7	11	7	3	13	176
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Total	{ Cases	476	266	181	123	113	78	75	84	83	94	111	136	1817
	{ Deaths	23	13	22	19	10	13	9	12	7	7	3	12	150
Influenza, excl. Influenzal Pneumonia	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Not compulsorily notifiable.

TABLE II.—MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1947.

DISEASE		NO. OF CASES AND DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE-PERIODS								CASES RECEIVING INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT			Cases not receiving Institutional Treatment
		At all Ages	YEARS							Municipal Hospitals		Other Institutions	
			Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65+	City Hospital	Woodend Hospital		
Cerebro-spinal	Cases	12	—	5	2	1	1	2	1	10	—	1	1
Fever .....	Deaths	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
*Chicken Pox...	Cases	23	1	11	10	—	—	—	1	20	—	—	3
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ..	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever (undulant)	Cases	3	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria...	Cases	9	—	3	4	1	1	—	—	9	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	Cases	13	—	1	4	1	6	—	1	7	—	—	6
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica...	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	Cases	65	1	1	4	2	20	25	12	38	—	—	27
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ...	Cases	6	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	Cases	9	—	—	—	2	6	1	—	5	—	—	4
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Measles .....	Cases	527	17	134	367	3	5	1	—	82	—	—	445
	Deaths	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	5
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague .....	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	Cases	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	4
	Deaths	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	Cases	404	71	64	57	27	65	56	64	206	132	9	57
	Deaths	53	18	3	1	—	1	12	18	30	23	—	—
Poliomyelitis, Acute .....	Cases	48	1	24	17	3	3	—	—	48	—	—	—
	Deaths	6	—	3	2	—	1	—	—	6	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever .....	Cases	42	—	—	—	14	28	—	—	41	—	1	—
	Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	Cases	33	—	—	—	9	24	—	—	28	—	3	2
Scarlet Fever...	Cases	205	3	50	125	16	9	2	—	168	—	—	37
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ..	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Pulmonary...	Cases	172	—	—	4	75	72	18	3	73	60	23	16
	Deaths	65	1	1	—	14	25	18	6	20	21	6	18
Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary	Cases	53	1	6	27	5	12	1	1	18	15	17	3
	Deaths	12	—	1	2	4	4	1	—	5	—	4	3
Typhoid Fever	Cases	6	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	6	—	—	—
	Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Paratyphoid A	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Whooping Cough.....	Cases	176	14	27	135	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	143
	Deaths	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1
Total ...	Cases	1817	116	326	757	167	255	110	86	802	207	55	753
	Deaths	150	26	9	6	18	32	31	28	68	44	11	27

\* Not compulsorily notifiable.

TABLE III.—MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING EACH YEAR FROM 1937 TO 1947.

Disease.		1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	ANNUAL AVERAGE 1937 to 1946.
Cerebro-Spinal	Cases	12	28	25	8	16	20	51	94	4	7	5	25.8
Fever . . .	Deaths	2	0	3	0	8	3	5	14	1	3	4	4.1
*Chickenpox . .	Cases	23	60	14	36	44	60	18	31	25	63	42	39.3
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Continued Fever (Undulant) . .	Cases	3	4	1	1	1	9	2	0	0	1	0	1.9
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.1
Diphtheria . .	Cases	9	68	136	153	156	331	372	586	472	567	426	326.7
	Deaths	0	0	9	5	5	15	19	21	22	19	18	13.3
Dysentery . .	Cases	13	100	331	83	335	396	248	198	83	446	145	236.5
	Deaths	0	0	3	5	6	10	8	5	2	3	0	4.2
Encephalitis . .	Cases	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	3	0.9
Lethargica . .	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	2	0.8
Erysipelas . .	Cases	65	104	79	54	90	114	92	110	122	143	140	104.8
	Deaths	0	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	5	1.8
Infective Jaundice	Cases	6	6	4	4	6	10	17	13	23	23	18	12.4
	Deaths	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	2	0	1.0
Malaria . . .	Cases	9	23	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	3	2	3.4
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.1
*Measles . . .	Cases	527	500	887	245	501	528	136	1571	21	1477	44	591.0
	Deaths	3	0	3	0	2	4	4	12	0	18	0	4.3
Ophth. Neonatorum	Cases	7	6	3	6	8	7	12	22	47	82	136	32.9
Plague . . .	Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pneumonia, Acute	Cases	4	13	3	12	56	1	19	19	27	4	99	25.3
Influenzal . .	Deaths	2	7	0	2	27	1	4	10	9	1	38	9.9
Pneumonia, Acute	Cases	404	379	347	424	447	374	423	475	343	377	608	419.7
Primary . . .	Deaths	53	38	34	40	50	46	41	68	51	70	111	54.9
Poliomyelitis, Acute	Cases	48	1	0	20	1	0	2	3	1	6	0	3.4
	Deaths	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2
Puerperal Fever	Cases	42	52	37	24	40	15	27	34	32	50	71	38.2
	Deaths	1	1	2	1	2	5	3	2	1	7	7	3.1
Puerperal Pyrexia	Cases	33	26	4	13	19	41	30	46	38	51	35	39.3
Scarlet Fever . .	Cases	205	465	316	202	231	234	179	266	276	883	534	358.6
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0.6
Smallpox . . .	Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Tuberculosis,	Cases	172	190	207	171	173	158	122	115	116	92	97	144.1
Pulmonary . .	Deaths	65	71	70	82	74	76	80	87	68	67	71	74.6
Tuberculosis, Non-	Cases	53	50	48	63	58	61	64	55	42	57	66	56.4
Pulmonary . .	Deaths	12	12	15	34	26	31	23	18	17	18	26	22.0
Typhoid and Para-	Cases	6	2	7	3	0	3	11	15	13	4	7	6.5
typhoid Fevers	Deaths	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0.3
Typhus Fever . .	Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
*Whooping Cough	Cases	176	151	195	346	165	243	321	369	23	458	367	264.8
	Deaths	5	3	4	2	3	5	7	12	0	13	18	6.7
Influenza, excl. Influenzal Pneumonia . .	Deaths	0	2	7	5	20	3	10	18	19	4	27	11.5

\*Not compulsorily notifiable.



## CHAPTER II. SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES.

### MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL SERVICES.

#### Woodend Hospital.

During 1947, Woodend Hospital continued to admit the following types of cases:—

#### (a) General Hospital—

- (1) General surgical cases, mainly Aberdeen cases from the surgical waiting lists of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, but also cases of surgical tuberculosis including neck glands for operation, tuberculous peritonitis, and renal tuberculosis, either from the City of Aberdeen or from the adjacent Counties.
- (2) General medical cases. In the main, these were City of Aberdeen cases admitted on request from the general practitioners but a proportion were admitted through the Social Welfare Department.
- (3) Gynaecological cases. These cases were admitted from the City of Aberdeen and the Counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine. There were two sources, viz., waiting list cases from the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and emergency cases, mainly abortions, from the same Local Authority areas.
- (4) Thoracic surgery cases. During 1947, the Thoracic Surgeon was appointed and allocated a few beds in a general surgical ward. During the year, he operated on cases referred from various sources, including the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children, the general practitioners and the Tuberculosis Medical Officers.

#### (b) Special Hospital—

- (1) Pulmonary tuberculous cases. These cases were chiefly referred by the Regional Tuberculosis Medical Officer and were gathered from a very wide area. During the year, cases were admitted from the City of Aberdeen and from all the Northern Counties of Scotland, including Orkney and Shetland.
- (2) Bone and joint tuberculous cases. During the early part of 1947, cases were admitted from the same area as for pulmonary cases. Early in the year a decision was made to transfer all such cases to Stracathro Hospital, Brechin, with the exception of a few with combined lung and bone or joint disease. This arrangement was completed on 18th December, 1947.

The following table briefly records the number of cases admitted and discharged during 1947.

WOODEND HOSPITAL—YEAR 1947.

	In Hospital on 31st December, 1946	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in Hospital	In Hospital on 31st December, 1947
<b>A. GENERAL HOSPITAL.</b>					
Surgical cases . . .	44	476	456	36	28
Medical cases . . .	107	868	601	252	122
Gynaecological cases . .	23	859	861	5	16
Total . . .	174	2203	1918	293	166
<b>B. SPECIAL HOSPITAL.</b>					
Tuberculosis—					
(a) Respiratory . . .	91	212	182	28	93
(b) Other . . .	47	94	125	7	9
Total . . .	138	306	307	35	102
Total A. and B. . .	312	2509	2225	328	268

**Treatment of Pneumonia.**—During the past few years, radical changes have taken place in the treatment of pneumonia, and this has especially been the case with the introduction and general release of penicillin. Comparatively few requests are now made by practitioners for the admission of straight-forward cases of pneumonia, but institutional treatment is often desired when the patients are old or where the home circumstances are too unsatisfactory for the patient to be efficiently treated at home.

During 1947, 142 cases of pneumonia were admitted to Woodend Hospital. There were 29 deaths. In the preceding 5 years, the average annual number of cases admitted was 140, and the average number of deaths was 19.

**(c) Hutted Annexe, Woodend Hospital.**

In March, 1947, the Hutted Annexe ceased to function as an Emergency Hospital. Up to this time, three wards of twenty-six beds each had been used for general surgical, general medical, and tuberculous cases. By April, the whole building was transferred to the Corporation. An extensive reconstruction programme was authorised and commenced towards the end of the summer. The intention is to convert the five wards into smaller units. To enable this to be done, three wards were thrown out of action and the remaining two utilised equally for general medical and tuberculous cases.

**(d) Theatre.**

During 1947, the excellent twin theatre in Woodend Hospital was used to a much greater extent than formerly. Towards the end of the year it was being used almost to capacity.

The following table records the number of operations performed in the theatre during the year 1947 with comparative figures for 1946.

	1947	1946
Operations in theatre . . . . .	1,384	859
Artificial pneumothorax cases, inductions and refills . . . . .	2,305	2,000
Surgical Cases from Royal Infirmary Waiting Lists . . . . .	644	335

The number of artificial pneumothorax operations performed in the wards is also recorded in the above table.

**(e) X-Ray Department.**

During 1947, the X-Ray Department was very fully utilised. Below are recorded the number of attendances, the number of films taken, and the work done in the Electro-cardiographic Department.

	Examinations	Films
Woodend Hospital in-patients . . . . .	4,359	6,924
Woodend Hospital out-patients . . . . .	912	1,441
County out-patients . . . . .	957	1,348
City Hospital in-patients . . . . .	42	267
City Hospital out-patients . . . . .	12	96
E.M.S. in-patients . . . . .	215	232
E.M.S. out-patients . . . . .	110	130
Total . . . . .	6,607	10,438
Photographic Department—		
Print reductions from X-ray films . . . . .	—	770
Lantern slides from X-ray films . . . . .	—	216
Electro-cardiographic Department—		
Electro-cardiograms taken . . . . .	—	212

**Summerfield Hospital.**

Throughout 1947, Summerfield Hospital was used as a maternity annexe to the Aberdeen Maternity Hospital. All admissions were controlled by the Maternity Hospital organisation.

Considerable structural and other improvements were effected during the year, and the buildings were converted into a very attractive unit. The most welcome improvement was the replacement of gas as a means of heating, lighting, and sterilising, by electricity which first functioned in December, 1947. Those improvements were greatly appreciated both by patients and staff.

Below is a record of admissions of mothers and number of children born during the year.

*Summerfield Hospital.*

Number of mothers admitted during 1947 . . . . .	372
Number of infants born . . . . .	345

**City Hospital.**

The admissions to the City Hospital during the years 1942-1947 are shown in following Tables (A) relating to all cases, and (B) cases from areas outside City.

The total admissions in 1947 amounted to 2,504, as compared with an average of 2,570 in the 1942-1946 quinquennium.

The average daily number of patients in 1947 was 214 as compared with an average of 203 in the preceding quinquennium.

ABERDEEN CITY HOSPITAL ANNUAL SUMMARY, 1947.

(A) *Total Admissions and Deaths during each Year from 1942 to 1947 inclusive.*

DISEASE.	1947.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	Aver. 1942-1946.
Cerebro-spinal	f Admitted 17	36	35	20	41	52	37
Fever . . . . .	{ Died . . . 2	1	2	2	13	8	5
Diphtheria . . . . .	f Admitted 10	71	150	165	185	395	193
	{ Died . . . 0	0	9	7	8	18	8
Dysentery . . . . .	f Admitted 15	43	132	67	193	220	131
	{ Died . . . 1	0	6	3	3	5	3
Erysipelas . . . . .	f Admitted 41	71	48	22	35	44	44
	{ Died . . . 0	3	1	0	1	1	1
Infective . . . . .	f Admitted 6	5	3	2	5	6	4
Jaundice . . . . .	{ Died . . . 0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Measles and	f Admitted 93	109	124	102	115	71	104
German Measles . . . . .	{ Died . . . 1	0	4	0	1	1	1
Ophthalmia . . . . .	f Admitted 5	1	2	9	3	5	4
Neonatorum . . . . .	{ Died . . . 0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonias, . . . . .	f Admitted 240	221	159	208	226	168	196
Acute . . . . .	{ Died . . . 36	22	17	16	22	19	19
Poliomyelitis . . . . .	f Admitted 86	10	2	26	4	1	9
Acute . . . . .	{ Died . . . 7	3	1	2	1	0	1
Puerperal Fever . . . . .	f Admitted 112	118	71	59	96	79	85
and Pyrexia . . . . .	{ Died . . . 0	1	1	1	2	2	1
Scarlet Fever . . . . .	f Admitted 173	398	265	162	187	169	236
	{ Died . . . 0	0	0	0	1	0	0.2
Smallpox . . . . .	f Admitted 0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	{ Died . . . 0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis . . . . .	f Admitted 214	186	223	179	112	66	153
	{ Died . . . 36	37	43	40	26	27	35
Typhoid & Para	f Admitted 7	5	11	5	3	7	6
typhoid Fevers . . . . .	{ Died . . . 1	1	1	0	0	1	1
Whooping	f Admitted 38	42	33	39	29	40	37
Cough . . . . .	{ Died . . . 4	3	2	2	2	5	3
Venereal . . . . .	f Admitted 205	104	84	66	99	83	87
Diseases . . . . .	{ Died . . . 0	0	0	2	2	0	1
Miscellaneous	f Admitted 1,242	1,271	1,257	1,125	1,426	1,139	1,244
Cases . . . . .	{ Died . . . 125	71	55	69	66	61	65
Admitted . . . . .	2,504	2,691	2,599	2,256	2,759	2,545	2,570
Died . . . . .	213	143	143	144	149	148	145
Aver. Daily No. of Patients . . . . .	214	219	199	203	184	209	203

(B) *Admissions from Areas outwith the City.*

DISEASE.	1947.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	Aver. 1942-1946.
Cerebro-spinal	{ Admitted	7	14	13	8	24	17
Fever .....	{ Died .....	1	1	1	2	5	3
Diphtheria .....	{ Admitted	1	4	8	5	21	18
.....	{ Died .....	0	0	0	1	0	1
Dysentery .....	{ Admitted	8	6	16	20	50	29
.....	{ Died .....	1	0	3	0	2	1
Erysipelas .....	{ Admitted	4	6	5	4	1	4
.....	{ Died .....	0	1	0	0	1	1
Measles .....	{ Admitted	11	7	19	16	26	16
.....	{ Died .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia	{ Admitted	4	0	1	4	0	1
Neonatorum ...	{ Died .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonias,	{ Admitted	34	27	19	13	16	17
Acute .....	{ Died .....	6	7	4	2	1	5
Polomyelitis,	{ Admitted	38	9	2	12	3	5
Acute .....	{ Died .....	1	3	0	1	1	1
Puerperal Fever	{ Admitted	42	41	31	18	40	31
and Pyrexia ...	{ Died .....	0	0	0	1	1	0.4
Scarlet Fever .....	{ Admitted	5	9	6	3	18	9
.....	{ Died .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis .....	{ Admitted	81	42	43	67	28	37
.....	{ Died .....	11	12	10	11	5	8
Typhoid & Para-	{ Admitted	1	3	3	1	2	3
typhoid Fevers...	{ Died .....	0	0	0	0	1	0.2
Whooping	{ Admitted	5	8	2	0	8	5
Cough .....	{ Died .....	0	1	0	0	1	0.4
Venereal	{ Admitted	139	62	50	47	72	59
Diseases .....	{ Died .....	0	0	0	1	1	0.4
Miscellaneous	{ Admitted	273	227	292	231	373	275
Cases .....	{ Died .....	36	20	14	21	13	17
Admitted...		653	465	510	449	679	530
Died .....		56	45	32	40	31	38

**X-Ray Department.**

The number of attendances during 1947 was 6,156, as compared with 5,511 in 1946.

**Operations.**

The number of operations performed under general or spinal anaesthesia was 198, being the same number as in the preceding year.

**Treatment of Scabies Cases at Cleansing Centre.**

In 1947, 1,165 persons were treated for scabies or other skin affections, as compared with an annual average of 3,736 in the preceding five years. The number of verminous persons disinfected in 1947 was 70, as against an average of 195 in the 1942-1946 quinquennium.



## TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES.

**Mortality.**

There were 77 deaths from tuberculosis, 65 of these being due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 12 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The deaths from tuberculosis represent 3·4 per cent. of the total deaths from all causes, or, approximately, one out of every 29 deaths.

The deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and from other forms of tuberculosis in 1947, in the preceding five years, and in 1938, the last full year of peace, were as follows:—

	Pulm.	Other	Total
1947 . . . . .	<b>65</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>77</b>
	—	—	—
1946 . . . . .	71	12	83
1945 . . . . .	70	15	85
1944 . . . . .	77	32	110
1943 . . . . .	74	26	100
1942 . . . . .	76	31	107
	—	—	—
1942-1946 quinquennium . . .	74	23	97
	—	—	—
1938 . . . . .	67	18	85
	—	—	—

It is noteworthy that the figure has now fallen, after a rise in the war years, when it reached a peak in 1944, to below the 1938 level, and, indeed, to the lowest level on record.

The deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, and from other tuberculosis for the years 1947, 1946, and 1938, arranged in age groups, are given below:—

## DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS—1947, 1946, 1938.

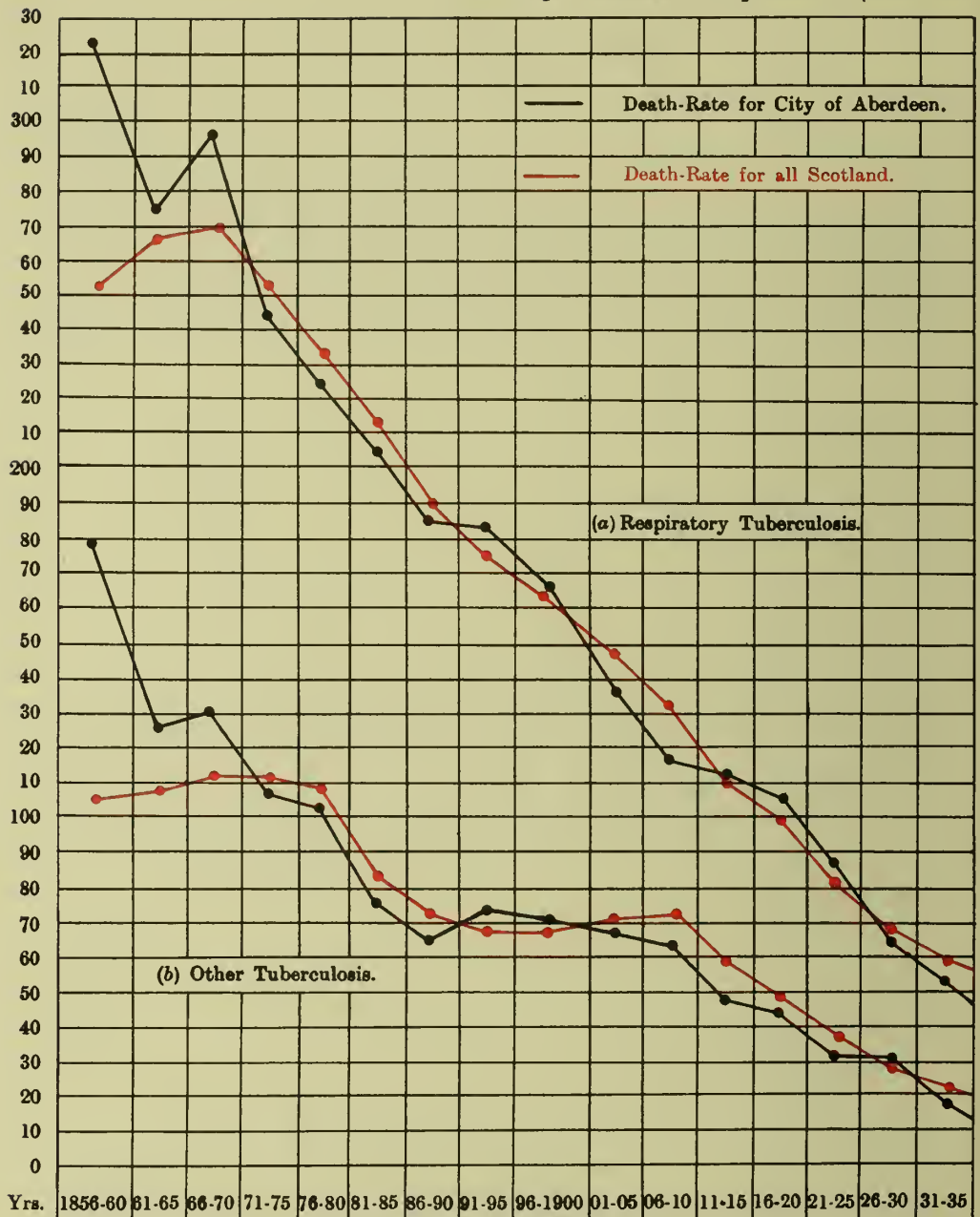
	1947	1946	1938		1947	1946	1938
Under 1 year . . .	1	1	—	45-55 years . . .	10	5	13
1-5 years . . .	1	1	1	55-65 „ . . .	8	10	6
5-15 „ . . .	—	1	—	65-75 „ . . .	6	7	7
15-25 „ . . .	14	12	14	Over 75 years . . .	—	1	—
25-35 „ . . .	13	19	16				
35-45 „ . . .	12	14	10				
					65	71	67

## DEATHS FROM OTHER TUBERCULOSIS—1947, 1946, 1938.

	1947	1946	1938		1947	1946	1938
Under 1 year . . .	—	1	1	45-55 years . . .	1	1	1
1-5 years . . .	1	2	3	55-65 „ . . .	—	1	1
5-15 „ . . .	2	3	5	65-75 „ . . .	—	—	1
15-25 „ . . .	4	2	3	Over 75 years . . .	—	—	1
25-35 „ . . .	1	—	2				
35-45 „ . . .	3	2	—				
					12	12	18



Deaths per 100,000 of Population. (Estimated)



(a) RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS.

Abdn.	322	274	298	243	223	204	184	181	167	138	116	111	106	88	62	52
All Scot.	253	266	270	254	234	213	190	175	166	148	131	110	99	81	68	59

(b) OTHER TUBERCULOSIS.

Abdn.	179	128	130	107	101	74	67	72	70	69	61	49	43	31	30	17
All Scot.	104	109	112	111	109	83	71	68	69	70	73	59	48	36	28	21

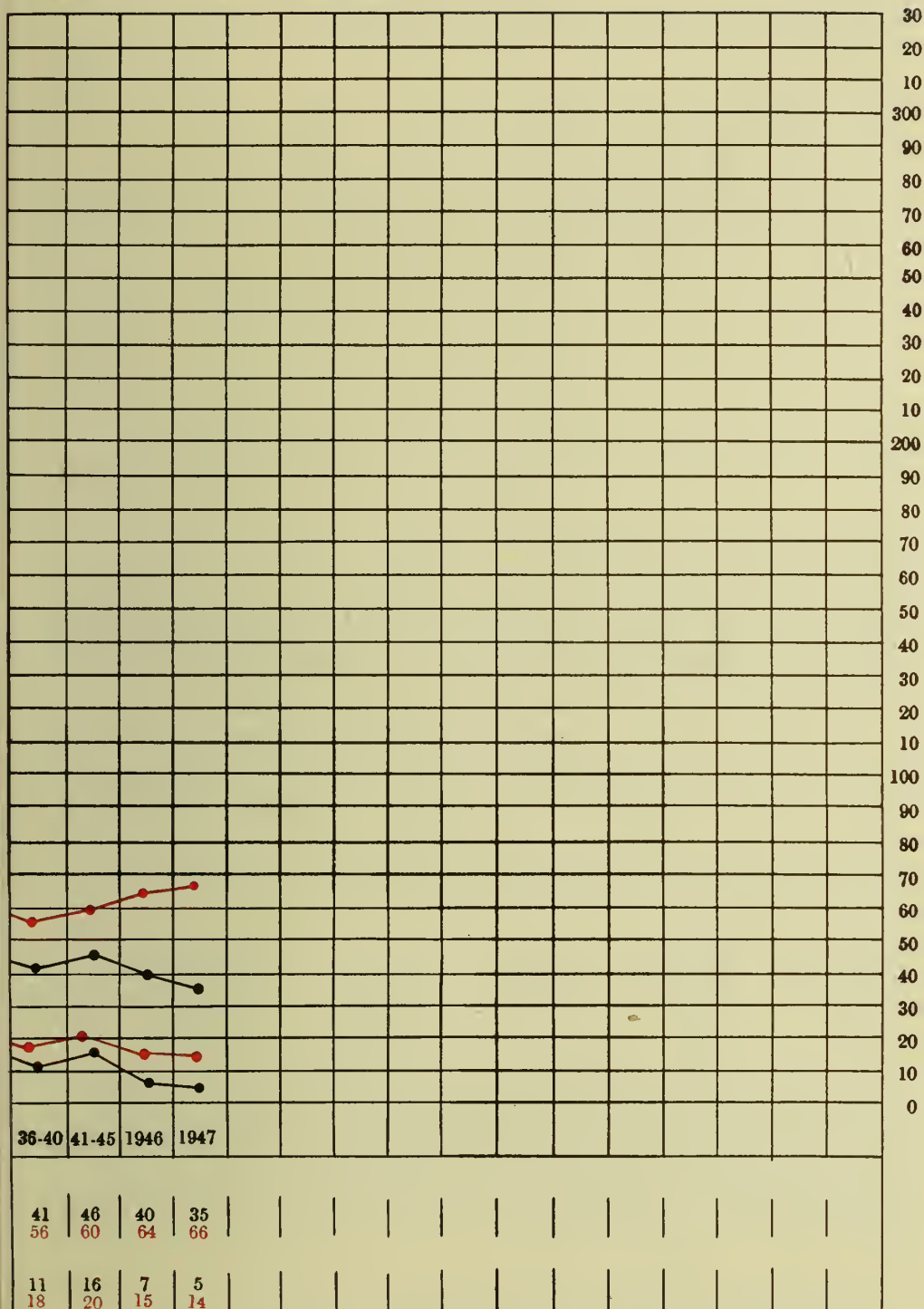
(Corrected for transferred deaths in 1904 and subsequent years.)



-QUINQUENNIAL PERIODS to 1945.

BOTH SEXES.

Civilian Mean Population, 1940-1946.)





The death-rates (per 1,000 of population) from tuberculosis for Scotland, and for the four large cities for the years 1947, 1946, and 1938, are given in the following table:—

	1947			1946			1938		
	Total	Resp.	Other	Total	Resp.	Other	Total	Resp.	Other
All Scotland .	0·80	0·66	0·14	0·79	0·64	0·15	0·69	0·52	0·17
Glasgow .	1·27	1·05	0·22	1·32	1·10	1·22	1·09	0·85	0·24
Edinburgh .	0·75	0·65	0·10	0·76	0·64	0·12	0·77	0·61	0·16
Dundee .	0·93	0·82	0·11	0·87	0·70	0·17	0·82	0·62	0·20
Aberdeen .	0·41	0·35	0·06	0·47	0·40	0·07	0·48	0·38	0·10

The accompanying chart shows the death-rates since 1856, together with a comparison between Aberdeen and all Scotland.

As in 1946, the recorded death-rate for Aberdeen in 1947 from all forms of tuberculosis was the lowest death-rate among the principal towns, and was practically half that for all Scotland. It was less than one-third of the rate for Glasgow, a little over half that for Edinburgh, and less than half that for Dundee. No city of similar population in the United Kingdom has a lower mortality rate.

The death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis in 1947 was 0·35 per 1,000, as compared with a rate of 0·40 in the previous year.

As regards the mortality from tuberculosis other than pulmonary, the rate in 1947, viz., 0·06, is the lowest recorded rate.

A comparison with the death-rate at the beginning of the century shows a remarkable decline in the tuberculosis mortality, and is illustrated in the following table:—

	Estimated Population at mid year	Deaths from all causes	Deaths from Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis Death Rate per 100,000	Percentage of Tuberculosis deaths to all deaths
1900 .	150,906	2,866	346	229	12·1
1947 .	188,800	2,242	77	41	3·4

Among the factors contributing to the relatively low tuberculosis mortality rate in Aberdeen, particularly as regards pulmonary tuberculosis, two appear to be of especial importance: firstly, the comparative adequacy of the bed-ratio (over 2 beds per death per annum), and, secondly, the fact that the control of the clinic and of the institution is under the same Authority, thus facilitating the most advantageous use of the available beds

The decline in the tuberculosis mortality rate since the beginning of the century, which, as in the case of the infantile mortality rate, is very much greater than the decline in the general mortality rate, cannot be wholly explained. But it is probable that three main causes are responsible—(1) improved social conditions; (2) a gradually increasing resistance to tuberculosis; and (3) the anti-tuberculosis scheme which has been elaborated since early in the century.

Of the 65 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 44 were in males and 21 in females. These were apportioned to the various ten-year age periods as under:—

DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN 1947 IN AGE AND SEX GROUPS

Sex	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 +	Total
Male . .	2	—	6	4	10	10	8	4	44
Female . .	—	—	8	9	2	—	—	2	21

The preponderance of deaths among males is very striking, as is also the differing age-distribution in the two sexes: less than 10 per cent. (2 out of 21) of the female deaths occurred over the age of 45, whereas 50 per cent. (22 out of 44) of the male deaths occurred over this age. Of the 21 female deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis 19 occurred between the ages of 15 and 45. This high percentage of deaths in the child-bearing period is not only significant in itself, but there is also the fact that 6 of those 19 deaths occurred in women whose first manifestations of the disease appeared either during pregnancy or within a few months of child-birth.

Of the 12 deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 7 were due to meningeal tuberculosis. Three of the deaths from tuberculous meningitis occurred among children. One occurred in an infant of 7 months. At the age of 4 months this child was discovered to be a contact case of the mother who had until then been an unrecognised case of tuberculosis. The second death was in a child of 3 years who was known to have tuberculosis and had probably been infected by his mother who died of tuberculosis. The disease had appeared to become quiescent, but it was re-animated by an attack of measles and became disseminated. The third child death from meningeal tuberculosis occurred in a boy of 8 years in whom the source of infection could not be traced.

Of the 5 non-pulmonary deaths, other than meningeal, 1 was due to spinal caries, 2 to hip joint disease, 1 to genito-urinary tuberculosis, and 1 to tuberculous peritonitis.

### Notifications.

Table VI A gives the number of tuberculous cases notified during 1947, and, for comparative purposes, the notifications for 1946 are also inserted. These are divided into pulmonary and non-pulmonary, and arranged according to sex and age-period.



## CASES AND DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS, 1940-1947.

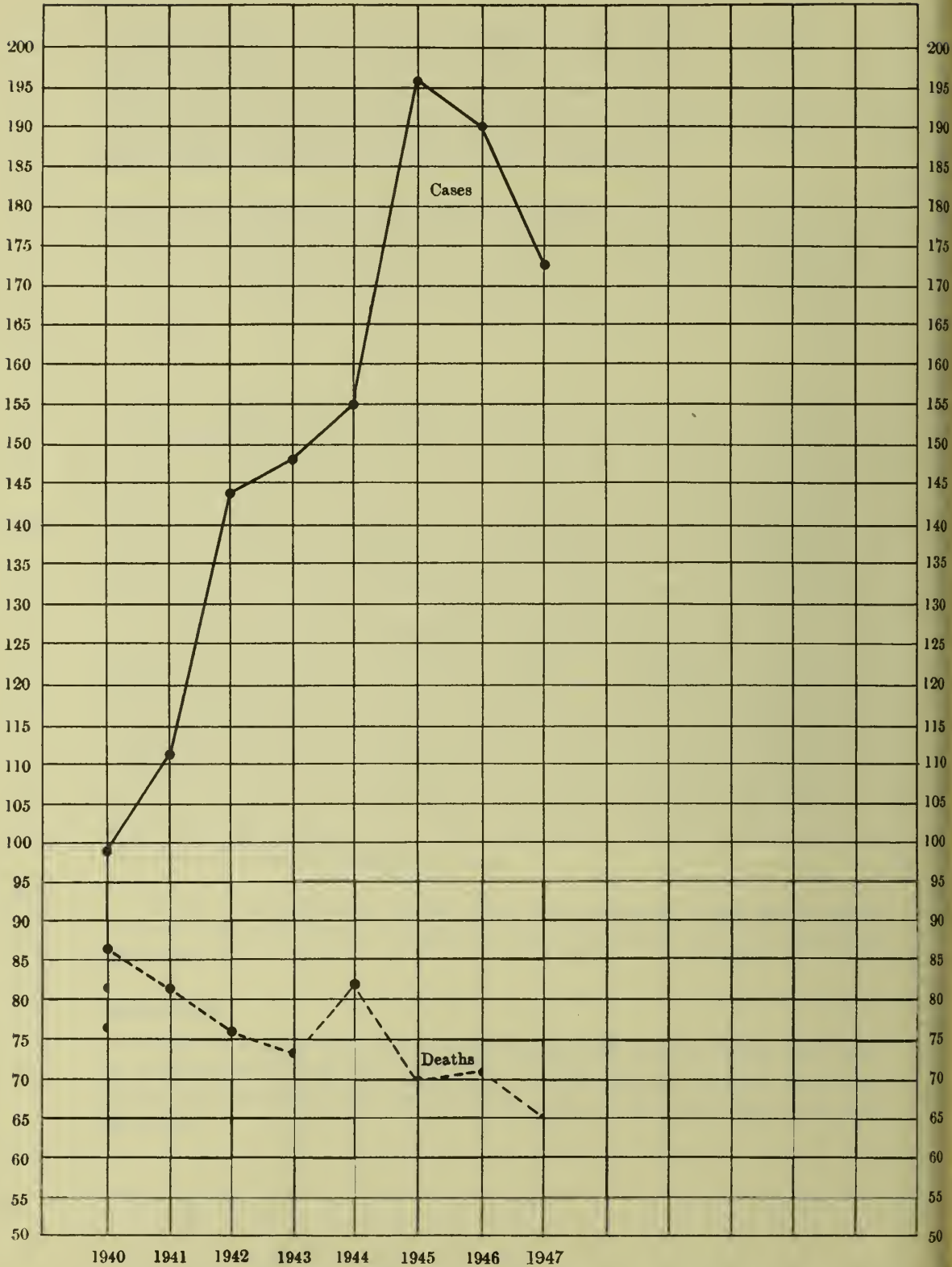


TABLE VI—ABERDEEN—A. CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED IN 1947 : 1946

	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED AS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.									Number of Cases notified during year in which diagnosis of Tuberculosis has been confirmed.	
	AGE-GROUPS.										
	Under 5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-65.	65 upwards.	TOTAL	Under 15.	15 and upwards.
PULMONARY.											
1947 Males .....	—	—	3	34	22	21	12	2	94	2	89
1946 Males .....	3	—	3	28	25	23	17	9	108	6	97
1947 Females ... ..	—	—	1	41	20	9	6	1	78	1	74
1946 Females .....	4	2	4	40	13	10	6	3	82	6	71
NON-PULMONARY.											
1947 Males .....	3	11	4	3	2	1	1	—	25	18	7
1946 Males .....	3	5	3	3	5	1	2	—	22	6	11
1947 Females .....	4	9	3	2	4	5	—	1	28	16	12
1946 Females .....	2	3	1	6	9	6	—	1	28	6	16
PULMONARY AND NON PULMONARY.											
1947 Male and Female ....	7	20	11	80	48	36	19	4	225	37	182
1946 Male and Female.....	12	10	11	77	52	40	25	13	240	24	195

During 1947, 172 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, as against 190 in 1946 and 92 in 1938.

Fifty-three cases of other forms of tuberculosis were notified in 1947, as against 50 in 1946 and 57 in 1938.

The notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis, though rather fewer than in the preceding year, are nearly twice as many as in 1938. Whilst the number includes a considerable proportion of symptomless cases, it would appear that there is a real increase in the incidence of clinical cases. In no fewer than 37 of the 91 male adults notified, the disease was accepted by the Ministry of Pensions as attributable to war service, and it is probable that at least an appreciable percentage of these would have escaped tuberculosis but for the hazards of war.

Even with improved methods of treatment in tuberculosis the high incidence of new cases is bound to have its aftermath of deaths for some years to come.

The appended graph shows the relative morbidity and mortality from pulmonary tuberculosis during the past few years. The graph relates to actual number of cases and deaths (not death-rates).

As regards the site of the disease, in the 53 cases notified as suffering from tuberculosis other than pulmonary, 16 were suffering from tuberculosis of the intrathoracic glands—practically all in children—5 from abdominal tuberculosis,



5 from tuberculous meningitis (two of which occurred under the age of 5 years), 8 from tuberculosis of bone and joint (including the spine), 11 from tuberculous glands, and 8 from generalised and other forms of tuberculosis, including lupus.

Of the 172 notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 160 were bacteriologically confirmed.

Table B shows the persons belonging to Aberdeen at 31st December, 1947, who were known to be suffering from tuberculosis. The numbers are 683 pulmonary and 172 non-pulmonary cases, a total of 855 cases.

B.—NUMBER OF PERSONS BELONGING TO ABERDEEN AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1947, WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		NUMBER OF CASES IN AGE-GROUPS.									TOTAL.
		Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
PULMONARY.											
1. Sputum not present .....	{ Males ...	—	—	—	2	6	—	1	—	—	9
	{ Females	—	—	—	1	12	2	—	—	—	15
2. Sputum present but not examined	{ Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Sputum examined and tubercle bacilli found	{ Males ...	—	—	—	—	54	72	99	52	11	288
	{ Females	—	—	—	—	72	73	49	23	1	218
4. Sputum examined and tubercle bacilli never found .....	{ Males ...	—	—	—	1	38	15	10	21	—	85
	{ Females	—	—	—	—	23	21	14	9	1	68
TOTAL . . . . .		—	—	—	4	205	183	173	105	13	683
NON-PULMONARY.											
1. Intra-thoracic glands .....	{ Males ...	—	2	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	11
	{ Females	—	6	9	8	1	—	—	—	—	24
2. Abdominal...	{ Males ...	—	—	3	3	5	2	—	—	—	13
	{ Females	—	1	2	—	5	2	4	1	—	15
3. Spine .....	{ Males ...	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	4	1	10
	{ Females	—	—	2	6	5	1	2	1	—	17
4. Bones and joints (exclusive of spine).....	{ Males ...	1	—	4	3	7	—	—	2	—	17
	{ Females	—	1	2	3	5	3	1	1	1	17
5. Superficial glands.....	{ Males ...	—	1	2	7	5	2	—	—	—	17
	{ Females	—	1	1	3	3	1	3	—	—	12
6. Lupus .....	{ Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
	{ Females	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	3
7. Other parts or organs .....	{ Males ...	—	—	1	—	1	3	1	1	1	8
	{ Females	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	6
TOTAL .....		1	12	31	38	39	21	16	11	3	172
PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY TOTAL		1	12	31	42	244	204	189	116	16	855



Table C gives particulars of those who died during the year 1947, detailing the period which elapsed between notification and death and between discharge from an institution and death.

As in Table A, reference is made in Table C to the year 1946 as a comparison to the year under review.

C.—NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO DIED FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN ABERDEEN, WITH PARTICULARS AS TO PERIOD ELAPSING BETWEEN NOTIFICATION AND DEATH AND BETWEEN DISCHARGE FROM AN INSTITUTION AND DEATH—YEAR 1947: 1946.

	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number of Persons who died from Tuberculosis	* 44 (39)	* 21 (32)	* 6 (8)	* 6 (4)
of whom—				
Not notified or notified only at or after death	3 (4)	1 (3)	2 (2)	1 (2)
Notified less than 1 month before death	3 (5)	3 (4)	— (3)	2 (2)
"    from 1 to 3 months    "    "    "	4 (4)	2 (3)	1 (1)	— (—)
"    "    3 to 6    "    "    "    "	2 (3)	4 (1)	— (—)	1 (—)
"    "    6 to 12    "    "    "    "	6 (3)	3 (2)	— (—)	1 (—)
"    "    1 to 2 years    "    "    "	6 (6)	2 (4)	— (—)	— (—)
"    over 2 years	20 (14)	6 (15)	3 (2)	1 (—)
TOTAL	44 (39)	21 (32)	6 (8)	6 (4)
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an institution	— (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an institution	11 (5)	2 (10)	1 (—)	— (—)

\* 1946 Figures in brackets.

### Institutional Treatment.

The tuberculosis beds both in Woodend and the City Hospital have been fully occupied throughout the year, and have just been sufficient in number to make waiting lists negligible.

Woodend Hospital accommodates 112 cases and the City Hospital 90 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. Approximately two-thirds of the cases are usually City cases.

The 60 beds in Woodend Hospital used for the treatment of other tuberculosis (mainly bone and joint) ceased to function for this purpose in July, and were allocated for general surgical cases. Most of the patients were transferred to Stracathro Hospital. The bulk of these patients belong to outwith the City, particularly Aberdeenshire, Kincardine, and Banffshire.

A certain problem of institutional accommodation has arisen owing to this change, especially as regards non-pulmonary tuberculosis in children.

The 12 beds in the City Hospital devoted to cases of intrathoracic tuberculosis of childhood have been filled to capacity throughout the year, and there is little doubt that they are of the greatest value in preventing the more serious disseminated

forms of tuberculosis in childhood which are apt to occur when exposure to infection is massive and long continued. More beds for the purpose are desirable.

During the course of the year a thoracic unit was set up in Woodend Hospital, much of the work performed being applied to cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. Thoracic surgery is playing a valuable part in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, and, while in itself it cannot replace basic sanatorium treatment, it is an indispensable supplement for many whose future, lacking it, would be bleak indeed.

Artificial pneumothorax—the most generally applicable and efficacious method of collapse therapy—was effectively carried out in 34 cases, and in 29 of these adhesion section was required to render the collapse satisfactory.

Phrenic nerve paralysis was performed in 75 cases, and this was supplemented by pneumoperitoneum in 61 cases. These latter measures not infrequently lead in themselves to arrest of the disease, but, failing this, they are often useful in preparing the patient for thoracoplasty at a later date.

Thoracoplasty itself was performed in 5 patients and was successful in all. This relatively small number was attributable to the change over to a thoracic unit and the time lag in getting certain necessary surgical equipment.

One hundred and eight patients were in regular attendance at the City Hospital Artificial Pneumothorax Clinic. The great majority of these patients were well and working.

As previously, a satisfactory reciprocal arrangement between City and County has operated as regards hospital treatment, many City patients being transferred to the County tuberculosis institutions to complete their convalescence, and County patients requiring special investigation or more complicated collapse therapy procedures being admitted for the purpose to Woodend or to the City Hospital.

Table D gives the number of cases who received treatment under the tuberculosis scheme in sanatoria or other institutions.

D.—NUMBER OF CASES WHO RECEIVED TREATMENT UNDER THE TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947.

		NUMBER OF PATIENTS.				
		In Institutions on January 1	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in Institutions	In Institutions on December 31
PULMONARY.						
Adults . . .	{ Males	76	122	101	30	67
	{ Females	59	108	84	16	67
Children . . .	{ Males	1	3	2	1	1
	{ Females	3	—	2	—	1
NON-PULMONARY.						
Adults . . .	{ Males	5	12	11	2	4
	{ Females	5	13	9	6	3
Children . . .	{ Males	4	14	15	3	—
	{ Females	6	17	13	1	9
Total . . . . .		159	289	237	59	152

As regards out-patient consultations, 1,669 cases attended the Chest Clinic, City Hospital. The total number of attendances during the year was 3,152, excluding 1,331 attendances at the Artificial Pneumothorax Clinic.

#### **Tuberculosis Allowances Scheme.**

The number of patients who received assistance throughout the year 1947 was 233.

#### **Streptomycin Treatment.**

In the month of September the Department of Health for Scotland instituted a scheme for the treatment of cases of meningeal and miliary tuberculosis. A treatment unit serving the North-East and the North of Scotland was set up at the City Hospital.

- In order to ensure the most advantageous use of this antibiotic, which was in limited supply, a local Medical Committee under the auspices of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Aberdeen University, was formed to assist in the selection of cases.

It will take time to assess fully the real value of this drug, but it may already be said there is now for the first time in history some hope for patients stricken by those hitherto almost uniformly fatal forms of the disease.

#### **Tuberculosis Society of Scotland.**

A meeting of the Tuberculosis Society of Scotland was held at the City Hospital on 24th April.

A most valuable paper on the "Prognosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis," based on a study of cases in this area from 1934-1943, was given by Dr. Robert Fraser, County Tuberculosis Officer.

Dr. T. E. Anderson also gave an interesting account of his experience in the treatment of lupus by Calciferol—perhaps the most successful treatment of this trying and disfiguring disease so far discovered.

At the same meeting Dr. W. Chambers, Senior Resident Physician, City Hospital, gave a demonstration of a rapid method of giving artificial pneumothorax, most useful and time-saving for large clinics, which he has devised.

#### **Supervision of Cases.**

The Tuberculosis Medical Officer had the assistance of three tuberculosis health visitors in the visitation and supervision of tuberculosis cases. The number of visits made by the tuberculosis health visitors during the year under review was 5,904.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

**Infantile Mortality.**

During 1947, there were 263 deaths among children under one year of age, as compared with an average of 174 deaths during the 1942-1946 quinquennium. The infant mortality rate, expressed as deaths per 1,000 live births, was 64 during 1947, as compared with 58 in the preceding quinquennium. It was hoped that the low infant mortality rate of 42 which was recorded in 1946 would be lowered, or at least maintained in 1947, but this did not materialise owing to a high mortality from a gastro-enteritis infection which was not confined to Aberdeen alone but was prevalent throughout Scotland during 1947, and is further referred to under the heading "Causes of Death."

*Comparison with other Towns.*—The infant mortality rate throughout Scotland was 56. Among the four principal towns in Scotland, Aberdeen appears second on the list; Edinburgh takes first place. In the previous year Aberdeen was first and Dundee second.

The infant mortality rates for all Scotland and for the four principal towns are given below:—

	Year 1947	Year 1946
All Scotland . . . .	56	54
Glasgow . . . . .	77	67
Edinburgh . . . . .	49	52
Dundee . . . . .	70	47
<b>Aberdeen</b> . . . . .	<b>64</b>	<b>42</b>

The accompanying chart shows the infantile mortality rate in Aberdeen as compared with the other three principal towns and with all Scotland since 1856.

*Distribution of Infantile Deaths according to Wards of City.*—The infantile mortality in the various wards of the City is shown in Table VII.

*Legitimate and Illegitimate Mortality.*—As will be seen from footnote in Table VII, in 1947 the mortality among illegitimate children was 15 per cent. and was considerably higher than the rate in 1946, which was 9 per cent. In the quinquennium 1942-1946 the rate was 14 per cent.

*Causes of Death.*—Table VIII gives the actual number of deaths of children at various age-periods. In Table IX death-rates are substituted for actual number of deaths. It will be seen from this table that the group consisting of diseases of digestive system, wasting and debility, and convulsions forms the highest death-rate, being 24 per 1,000 live-births; the next highest group consists of prematurity, congenital defects, and other diseases of early infancy, with a rate of 21; while bronchitis and pneumonia follow next with a rate of 13 per 1,000 live births.

The number of deaths classified as due to diarrhoea and enteritis in 1947 was 89, or 34 per cent. of the total deaths under one year, as compared with an average





# INFANT MORTALITY RATE, 1856-1947-

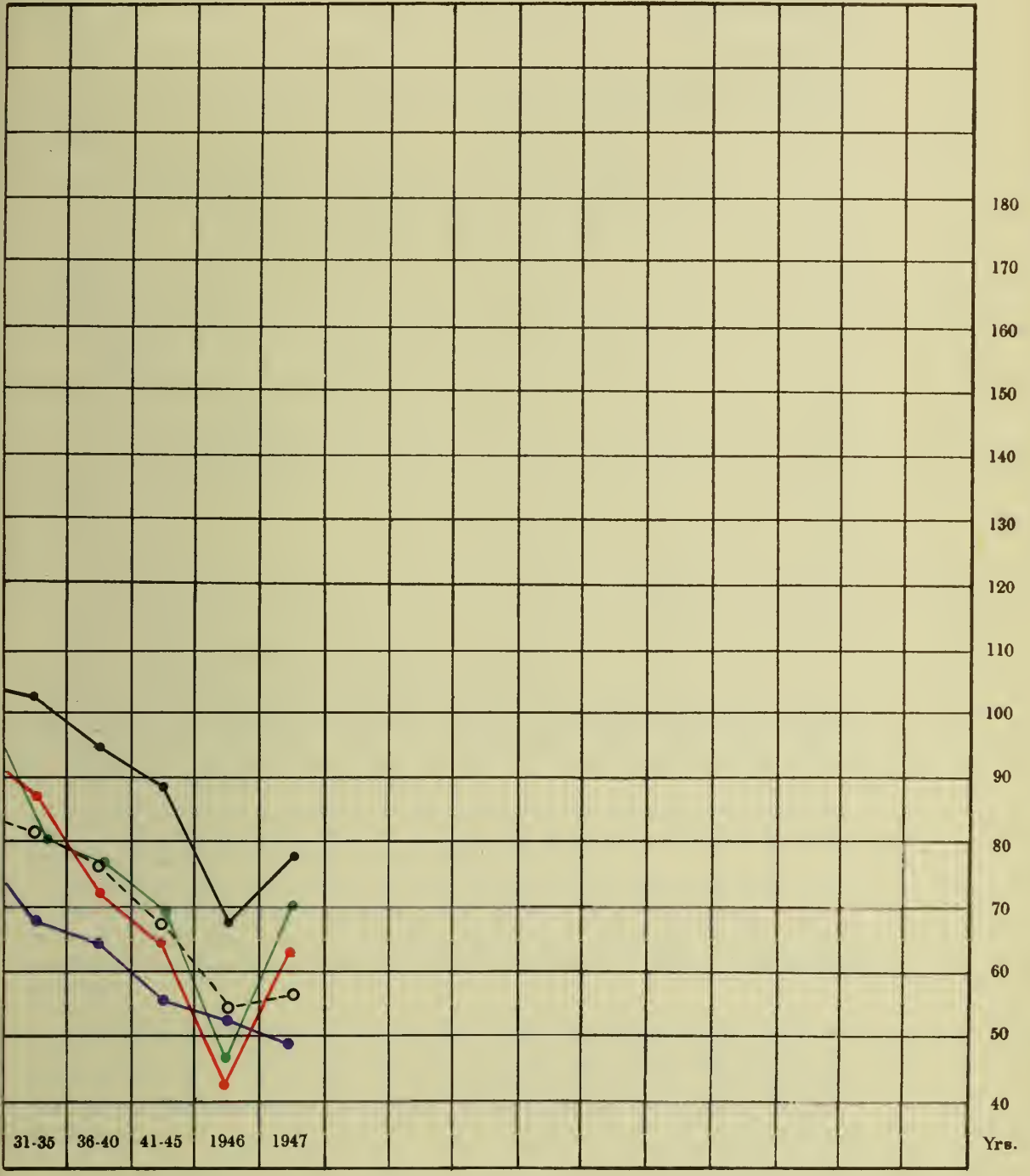
Deaths under 1 year





-QUINQUENNIAL AVERAGES. 1856-1945.

per 1,000 Births.





of 29 deaths or 17 per cent. of the total deaths in the quinquennium 1942-1946. As has been already mentioned, gastro-enteritis was prevalent throughout Scotland during 1947.

The deaths from gastro-enteritis in children under one year are shown below. In the first part of the table, the deaths are tabulated according to the months in which the deaths occurred, and in the second part are given the age-groups in months.

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR FROM GASTRO-ENTERITIS—1947.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Male . . .	2	7	9	6	5	4	3	9	4	1	1	2	53
Female . . .	2	2	6	6	3	3	4	2	5	1	2	—	36
TOTAL . .	4	9	15	12	8	7	7	11	9	2	3	2	89

Age . . .	Under 1 month	1 month	2 months	3 months	4 months	5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9-12 months	TOTAL
Male . . .	9	13	7	6	5	4	5	2	—	2	53
Female . . .	4	5	5	2	5	4	2	2	3	4	36
TOTAL . .	13	18	12	8	10	8	7	4	3	6	89

The fatality was highest in the months of March and April, and, of the 89 deaths, 43 occurred in infants under three months.

The cause of the disease is unknown. It is almost certainly infectious and there may be two infective agents, one operating in infants under one month and the other at an older age period. Investigations are being carried out as to the cause and nature of the infection.

In cases admitted to hospital, it was found that the majority were bottle-fed and that the disease rarely occurred amongst the breast-fed. Most of the cases came from homes with somewhat unfavourable environment.

Advice was given to mothers—by press propaganda and otherwise—that, with a view to prevention, they should keep their children away from possible sources of infection and that, when it was necessary to bottle-feed their babies, every precaution should be taken in the preparation of feeds and in the cleansing of bottles and teats.

*Neo-Natal Deaths.*—As will be seen from Table IX, the number of deaths of infants under one month in 1947 was 108, or 41 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 93, or 53 per cent., in the preceding quinquennium. The neo-natal death-rate in 1947 was 26 per 1,000 live-births, as compared with a rate of 28.5 for all Scotland.

### Still-Birth Rate.

Table IX shows that, in 1947, there were 107 still-births in Aberdeen, giving a rate of 25 per 1,000 live and still-births. Corresponding figures for Scotland and for the other large cities are as follows:—

	Still-Birth Rate	
	1947	1946
All Scotland . . . .	31	32
Glasgow . . . . .	33	36
Edinburgh . . . . .	26	32
Dundee . . . . .	25	33
<b>Aberdeen . . . . .</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>

Aberdeen and Dundee were equal with the lowest still-birth rate in 1947.

### Mortality in Pre-School Period—(1-5 years)—Table VIII.

There was a considerable reduction in the mortality in this age-period in 1947 as compared with the preceding quinquennium. During 1947 there were 19 deaths as compared with an average of 33 in the quinquennium 1942-1946. A record was set up in 1946, when there were no deaths from diphtheria, and this has been maintained in 1947; in the preceding quinquennium the average number of deaths from this disease was 3. There was 1 death from whooping-cough in 1947, as against an average of 2 in the preceding five years. There was only 1 death from tuberculous meningitis in 1947 as compared with an average of 5 in the preceding quinquennium.

### Maternal Mortality.

In their report for 1947, the Department of Health for Scotland state that 235 women died from causes peculiar to pregnancy and childbirth, as compared with 236 in 1946. Deaths from puerperal sepsis amounted to 38 in 1947 as against 57 in 1946.

In Aberdeen, in 1947, 5 women died from causes peculiar to pregnancy and childbirth, including 1 death classified as due to puerperal sepsis. This was an increase over the small figure of 2 for 1946.

In 1947, the age-grouping was as follows, giving an average age of 27 years at death:—

20-25 years . . . . .	1 death
25-30 years . . . . .	2 deaths
30-35 years . . . . .	2 deaths
	—
	5 deaths
	==

Three cases were delivered in institutions, and two at home. Ante-natal care was adequate in all cases except one where death occurred before medical attention was received.

As regards death-rates from diseases peculiar to pregnancy and child-birth, Aberdeen had a rate of 1·2 in 1947, as compared with a rate of 2·0 for all Scotland.

In the quinquennium 1942-1946 the average rate for all Scotland was 3·2; in Aberdeen it was 2·0.

The following table shows the comparison between Aberdeen and all Scotland:—

Per 1,000 live and still births

Year	Maternal Mortality Rate		Puerperal Sepsis		Other Puerperal Conditions	
	Scotland	Aberdeen	Scotland	Aberdeen	Scotland	Aberdeen
1947	2·0	1·2	0·3	0·24	1·7	0·95
1946	2·2	0·5	0·5	0·25	1·7	0·25
1945	2·8	1·4	0·9	0·7	1·9	0·7
1944	3·0	1·6	1·1	0·3	1·9	1·2
1943	3·7	2·4	1·3	0·7	2·4	0·7
1942	4·1	4·3	1·7	1·7	2·4	2·6
Average 1942-1946	3·2	2·0	1·1	0·7	2·1	1·3

### Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

The following table gives various particulars relating to the number of cases notified:—

	Puerperal Fever 1947	Puerperal Pyrexia 1947
No. of cases notified . . . . .	42	33
No. of deaths . . . . .	1	—
No. receiving Institutional Treatment—		
City (Fever) Hospital . . . . .	41	28
Other Institutions . . . . .	1	3
No. retained at home . . . . .	—	2
No. of cases following abortion . . . . .	10	7
No. of deaths following abortion . . . . .	—	—

### Births.

The registered births are analysed in detail in Chapter III of this Report. The particulars regarding the live-births and still-births which actually occurred in the City during 1947 are as follows:—

	Total	Live	Still
(a) Number of births occurring in the area during 1947 .	4,773	4,626	147
(b) Nature of attendance at confinement—			
(i) Maternity Services Scheme cases, with or without doctor . . . . .	*1,137	1,114	23
(ii) Other domiciliary cases—			
(a) With doctor . . . . .	44	43	1
(b) With midwife alone . . . . .	—	—	—
(c) Conducted by outdoor staff of institution . . . . .	11	10	1
(d) Without doctor or midwife . . . . .	6	5	1
(iii) Institutional cases (including those in private maternity and nursing homes) . . . . .	3,575	3,454	121

\* Including 130 with doctor.

**Home Visitation.**—A record of the number of visits to expectant mothers (excluding visits paid by a midwife attending the confinement as a midwife or as a maternity nurse), to infants under 1 year of age, and to children from 1 to 5 years, is herewith submitted:—

	Infants under one year		Children one to five years	Ante-natal Cases
	First Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits
<b>1947</b>	4,391	32,192	22,376	287
Average <b>1942-1946</b>	2,888	21,896	13,195	210

*Aberdeen Mother and Child Welfare Association.*—The Town Council greatly appreciate the excellent work carried out by this Association which has for many years given most valuable assistance in supporting and augmenting the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme. The Association give full details of their work in the Report which is issued annually.

#### **Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.**

Ante-Natal Consultative Clinic services are held as follows:—

Castle Terrace—Monday to Thursday—2 p.m. weekly.

Wednesday—11 a.m. weekly.

Torry—Wednesday—2 p.m. fortnightly.

Friday—2 p.m. weekly.

Hilton—Friday—2 p.m. weekly.

On Friday afternoons, at the Castle Terrace Clinic, lectures are given on a variety of welfare topics of special interest to the expectant mother.

During 1947 the total number of women who attended at the clinics was 2,585, as compared with 2,162 in 1946.

Post-Natal Clinics are held twice weekly at the Maternity Hospital; the total number of women attending during 1947 was 1,500.

#### **Child Welfare Clinics.**

During 1947 the following clinics were in operation:—

Two sessions weekly at Castle Street, Charlotte Street, Torry, and Hilton; one session weekly at Old Aberdeen, Powis, Holburn Street, Gallowgate, Beechgrove, and Hayton; and one session per fortnight at Ruthrieston.

The extent of the work performed at the clinics during 1947 is summarised as follows:—

Total number of attendances during year—

(a) Under 1 year of age . . . . .	18,166
(b) 1 year of age and over . . . . .	3,614



### Special Treatment Centres.

Number of cases treated during year	Mother	Children
(1) Teeth . . . . .	122	249
(2) Eyes . . . . .	—	36
(3) Ear, nose, and throat . . . . .	—	32
(4) Other ailments . . . . .	—	—
(5) Ultra-violet light treatment . . . . .	—	345
(6) Orthopædic . . . . .	—	40

### Mother and Baby Homes.

The Mother and Baby Home carries out most valuable work at its headquarters at No. 25, Westfield Terrace. This Home, which is conducted by a voluntary association, provides a most useful and necessary service to the community.

### Nurseries and Children's Homes.

Residential accommodation is provided in the Nursery at Middlefield. The accommodation there is 25 beds. Thorngrove Home Residential Nursery accommodates 29 children under 2 years of age.

The non-residential Nurseries are as follows:—

Charlotte Street (with accommodation for 60), Linksfeld (30), Castle Terrace (30), and Torry (40).

The following Homes for children are maintained by voluntary associations, viz.:—

Children's Shelter, 38, Castle Street . . . . .	5 beds.
Nazareth House, 34, Claremont Street . . . . .	60 „
St. Martha's Home for Girls, 19, Spital . . . . .	12 „

### Domestic Help Scheme.

In September, 1946, the Domestic Help Scheme, which had been in operation in the City since 1st March, 1946, was extended to embrace the Maternity and Child Welfare Department. The purpose of the scheme is to assist households where there is no help available from relatives, neighbours or privately. Each case is assessed according to its necessity, and a scale of charges drawn up by the Town Council is in operation.

At the end of 1947 there were in employment 12 domestic helps—11 full-time and 1 part-time. The number of cases assisted during the year were 99 maternity cases and 55 general cases. The allocated period of assistance is 14 days for confinement cases and 5 to 6 weeks for other cases.

### Hospital Accommodation for Ailing Children.

*Maternity Hospital : Babies' Nursery.*—The opening of the Babies' Nursery in the Maternity Hospital in 1940 has proved most successful in giving feeble premature infants a better chance of survival. There are 30 cots for infants born before the normal date of gestation or born in difficult conditions in the wards. In 1947, 645 babies were admitted, including 61 who were born outside and admitted for treatment.

TABLE VII.—INFANTILE MORTALITY IN WARDS OF THE CITY.

YEAR	Whole City.	Ward of City.												
		Wood-side.	St. Machar.	St. Clement's.	Grey-friars.	St. Nicholas.	Gilcom-ston.	Rose-mount.	Rubis-law.	Ruthie-ston.	Hol-burn.	Ferry-hill.	Torry.	
1947 .	Infant Mortality Rate	64	80	73	80	73	39	68	26	40	38	51	49	71
Average 1942-46	do.	58	50	66	83	73	61	50	43	38	24	64	46	57
1947 .	Number of Births	4124	637	713	348	396	206	190	196	199	286	233	224	496
Average 1942-46	do.	3072	471	463	302	265	133	189	177	151	240	159	174	357
1947 .	Number of Deaths under 1 year.	263 (39)	51 (5)	52 (5)	28 (7)	29 (6)	8 (2)	13 (3)	5 (—)	8 (2)	11 (1)	12 (2)	11 (2)	35 (4)
Average 1942-46	do.	174 (25)	24 (3)	30 (5)	25 (5)	19 (3)	9 (1)	9 (1)	8 (1)	6 (1)	6 (2)	10 (1)	8 (0.4)	20 (2)
1947 .	Causes of Death—Infectious Diseases	7 (1)	3 (1)	2 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —
Average 1942-46	do.	6 (1)	0.6 —	2 —	1 (0.2)	0.2 —	0.2 (0.2)	— —	— —	0.2 —	0.2 (0.2)	0.6 —	0.2 —	1 (0.2)
1947 .	Tuberculosis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Average 1942-46	do.	2	0.6 —	0.2 —	0.2 —	0.2 —	0.2 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	0.2 —
1947 .	Diseases of Early Infancy	96 (16)	20 (1)	16 (3)	9 (2)	8 (4)	2 —	2 (1)	4 —	4 (1)	6 —	7 (1)	5 (1)	13 (2)
Average 1942-46	do.	94 (10)	14 (2)	16 (2)	11 (1)	8 (1)	4 —	6 (0.6)	4 (0.2)	4 (0.4)	3 (0.6)	6 (0.2)	5 (0.4)	12 (2)
1947 .	Pneumonia, Bronchitis, etc.	54 (6)	9 —	13 (1)	3 —	9 (1)	3 (1)	4 —	— —	3 —	3 (1)	— —	— —	7 (2)
Average 1942-46	do.	31 (5)	4 —	5 (1)	5 (1)	5 (1)	2 (0.4)	2 —	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	2 (0.4)	1 (0.2)	1 —	2 —
1947 .	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	89 (15)	17 (3)	19 (1)	15 (5)	9 (1)	2 (1)	6 (2)	1 —	1 (1)	1 —	4 (1)	2 —	12 —
Average 1942-46	do.	30 (6)	4 (0.6)	5 (0.4)	6 (2)	5 (1)	2 (0.6)	0.2 —	2 (0.6)	— —	0.4 (0.4)	1 (0.4)	0.6 —	4 (0.2)
1947 .	Other Causes	16 (1)	2 —	2 —	1 —	2 —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	3 (1)	2 —
Average 1942-46	do.	11 (3)	1 (0.2)	2 (1)	2 (0.6)	1 —	0.4 (0.2)	0.6 (0.2)	0.6 —	0.6 —	0.2 —	1 (0.2)	1 —	1 (0.4)

1947. —Of above 263 deaths, 39 — 15 per cent.—occurred among illegitimate children. The numbers are denoted in brackets.  
 Average 1942-46. —Of above 174 deaths, 25 — 14 per cent. — do. do. do.

TABLE VIII.—CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.  
Year 1947.

CAUSES OF DEATH	AGE																				Average for preceding 5 years (1942-46)
	FIRST YEAR										SECOND TO FIFTH YEARS										
	First Four Weeks				First Three Months			The Four Quarters			SECONDS TO FIFTH YEARS										
	First Four Weeks				First Three Months			The Four Quarters			SECONDS TO FIFTH YEARS										
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	0-1	1-2	2-3	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	Total	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	Total	0-1	1-5	
Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	4	..	1	..	..	1	2	0 <sup>a</sup>	
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Epidemic Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
(a) Brain	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
(b) Abdomen	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
(c) Lungs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	0 <sup>a</sup>	
(d) Other Forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Tuberculosis of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hydrocephalus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Pneumonia	..	4	3	6	13	4	9	26	14	9	2	49	1	1	1	1	..	3	28	7	
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Diarrhea and Enteritis	..	3	1	3	13	18	12	43	26	14	6	89	1	..	..	..	..	2	29	1	
Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Congenital Heart	..	2	1	..	3	3	..	6	2	1	..	9	1	..	..	..	..	1	8	0 <sup>a</sup>	
Other Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	1	6	1	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Prenaturity	27	2	1	2	32	4	1	37	1	..	..	37	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	1	1	..	..	2	2	..	4	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Atelectasis	22	1	..	..	23	..	..	23	..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Injury at Birth	7	..	..	..	7	..	..	7	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Burns and Scalds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Suffocation	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	1	2	1	3	
Other Accidents	3	..	1	..	3	1	..	3	2	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	4	
Other Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
ALL CAUSES	70	12	6	12	108	34	25	167	54	30	12	263	9	3	4	3	19	174	33	..	
Average for preceding 5 years	71	7	7	7	93	16	15	125	33	10	6	174	15	8	6	4	33	..	..	..	

\* This column includes all deaths in preceding columns.

TABLE IX.—ABERDEEN.—BIRTHS, STILL-BIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY.  
Years 1937-1947.

YEAR.	No. of Live Births.	Live Births per 1,000 of Population.	Illegitimate Births, per cent. of Live Births.	No. of Still Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Total Births, incl. Still Births.	No. of Deaths of Infants under 1 Year.	No. of Deaths of Infants under 1 Month.	Death-rates from all Causes per 1,000 Live Births.				Death-rates among Infants under 1 Year of Age from Chief Causes per 1,000 Births.									
								Total under one Year.	Under One Month (Neo-natal Rate).	One Month and under Six Months.	Six Months and under One Year.	Common Zymotic Diseases.						Syphilis.	Suffocation.		
												Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis.					
1947 . .	4124	22.0	5.9	107	25	263	108	64	26	28	10	21	24	13	0.7	1	0	0	0.2	0	1
1946 . .	3762	20.4	7.0	115	30	158	92	42	24	16	2	22	10	6	0	0.3	0	0	0.5	0.5	1
1945 . .	2830	15.5	10.0	71	24	152	76	54	27	21	6	26	14	8	0.4	1	0	0	0.4	0	0
1944 . .	2989	16.5	9.2	68	22	169	83	57	28	23	6	28	9	14	0	0.3	0	0	0.3	0.7	2
1943 . .	2876	16.0	8.9	96	32	195	111	68	39	24	5	34	14	12	0.3	0.7	0	0	0	0.7	0.3
1942 . .	2904	16.1	8.5	91	30	194	104	67	36	22	9	35	14	10	1	1	0.7	0	1	1	0
Average 1942-46 . .	3072	16.9	8.7	88	28	174	93	58	31	21	6	29	12	10	0.4	0.7	0.1	0	0.4	0.6	0.7
1941 . .	2907	16.2	7.5	96	32	224	128	77	44	25	8	38	16	15	0.3	1	0	0	0	0.3	1
1940 . .	2804	15.6	6.3	115	39	241	120	86	43	27	16	38	13	22	1	2	1	0	0.4	0.4	0.4
1939 . .	2977	16.6	6.3	111	36	177	102	59	34	18	7	30	10	13	0	0	0	0	0.7	0.7	1
1938 . .	3008	16.9	5.6	Still-Birth Act not in force until 1939		215	99	71	33	26	12	29	15	15	2	1	1	0	0.3	0	1
1937 . .	3026	17.1	6.4			219	105	72	34	25	13	32	11	18	0	4	0.3	0.3	1	0.3	1
Average 1937-41 . .	2944	16.5	6.4	111	215	73	38	24	11	33	13	17	0.7	2	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.9

## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

The Report on the School Medical Services for the year ended 31st July, 1947, is herewith submitted: —

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

## Number of Schools—

(1) Under Education Authority—	
(a) Primary . . . . .	25
(b) Junior Secondary . . . . .	8
(c) Secondary . . . . .	3
(d) Nursery . . . . .	4
(2) (i) Special Schools . . . . .	2
(ii) Special Classes in ordinary schools . . . . .	—
(iii) Nursery Classes . . . . .	6
(3) In receipt of grant from Education Committee and under medical inspection	3
Number of children on the registers ( <i>i.e.</i> , for whole area—not individual schools)	27,072

## THE FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The findings of systematic medical examinations are as follows:—

	Number Examined	Number found Defective	Per- centage
1. Clothing unsatisfactory . . . . .	8,112	8	1
2. Footgear unsatisfactory . . . . .	„	12	·1
3. Cleanliness—			
(a) Head—			
Nits . . . . .	„	101	1·2
Vermin . . . . .	„	7	·09
(b) Body—			
Vermin . . . . .	„	—	—
4. Skin—			
(a) Head—			
Ringworm . . . . .	„	—	—
Impetigo . . . . .	„	47	·6
Other diseases . . . . .	„	20	·2
(b) Body—			
Ringworm . . . . .	„	1	·01
Impetigo . . . . .	„	15	·2
Scabies . . . . .	„	16	2
Other diseases . . . . .	„	182	2·2
5. Nutritional state—			
Slightly defective . . . . .	„	36	·4
Bad . . . . .	„	1	·01

	Number Examined	Number found Defective	Per- centage
6. Mouth and teeth unhealthy . . . . .	8,112	49	·6
7. Naso-pharynx—			
(a) Nose—			
(i) Obstruction requiring observation . . . . .	„	672	8·3
(ii) Obstruction requiring operative treatment . . . . .	„	13	·2
(iii) Other conditions . . . . .	„	14	·2
(b) Throat—			
(i) Tonsils requiring observation . . . . .	„	1,894	23·3
(ii) Tonsils requiring operative treatment . . . . .	„	328	4·0
(c) Glands—			
(i) Requiring observation . . . . .	„	148	1·8
(ii) Requiring operative treatment . . . . .	„	1	·01
8. Eyes—			
(a) External Diseases—			
Blepharitis . . . . .	„	142	1·8
Conjunctivitis . . . . .	„	6	·07
Corneal Opacities . . . . .	„	6	·07
Strabismus . . . . .	„	339	4·2
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	90	1·1
(b) Visual Acuity with/without Glasses—			
Fair . . . . .	5,463	1,062	19·4
Bad . . . . .	„	92	1·7
Recommended for Refraction . . . . .	„	342	6·3
9. Ears—			
(a) Diseases—			
Otorrhœa . . . . .	8,112	65	·8
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	96	1·2
(b) Defective Hearing—			
Grade I . . . . .	5,463	15	·3
Grade IIa . . . . .	„	3	·05
10. Speech—			
Defective articulation . . . . .	8,112	31	·4
Stammering . . . . .	„	21	3
11. Mental and Nervous Condition—			
(a) Backward . . . . .	„	9	·1
(b) Dull . . . . .	„	—	—
(c) Mentally deficient (educable) . . . . .	„	2	·02
(d) Mentally deficient (ineducable) . . . . .	„	—	—
(e) Highly nervous or unstable . . . . .	„	29	·4
(f) Difficult in behaviour . . . . .	„	5	·06
12. Circulatory System—			
(a) Organic Heart Disease—			
(i) Congenital . . . . .	„	10	·1
(ii) Acquired . . . . .	„	9	·1
(b) Functional Conditions . . . . .	„	42	·5



	Number Examined	Number found Defective	Per- centage
13. Lungs—			
Chronic bronchitis . . . . .	8,112	5	·07
Suspected tuberculosis . . . . .	„	21	·3
Other diseases . . . . .	„	238	2·9
14. Deformities—			
(a) Congenital . . . . .	„	24	·3
(b) Acquired (infantile paralysis) . . . . .	„	6	·07
(c) Acquired (probably rickets) . . . . .	„	108	1·3
(d) Acquired (other causes) . . . . .	„	122	·2
15. Infectious disease . . . . .	„	9	·1
16. Other diseases or defects . . . . .	„	935	11·5
17. Classification—			
Group I (2,977) . . . . .	„	—	36·7
Group II (a) . . . . .	5,463	619	11·3
Group II (b) . . . . .	8,112	8	·1
Group II (c) . . . . .	5,463	5	·09
Group III . . . . .	8,112	3,382	41·7
Group IV (a) . . . . .	„	960	11·8
Group IV (b) . . . . .	„	161	2·0
Number notified to parents as suffering from defects . . . . .	„	1,073	13·2
Number under observation . . . . .	„	3,698	45·6
Number of parents present at inspection (6,428) . . . . .	„	—	79·2
Number wearing glasses . . . . .	„	636	7·8

TABLE OF HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS.

*Boys.*

	Age	Number Examined	Average Age	Average Height in Inches	Average Weight in Lbs
1946-47	5	998	52	42.3	41.7
Do.	9	1,291	92	51.1	62.0
Do.	13	1,367	135	58.7	90.4
Do.	16	172	166	67.6	130.0

*Girls.*

	Age	Number Examined	Average Age	Average Height in Inches	Average Weight in Lbs
1946-47	5	964	52	42.7	40.2
Do.	9	1,229	95	50.7	60.3
Do.	13	1,242	134	59.3	92.6
Do.	16	142	166	64.2	124.2

**Medical Treatment.**

## A—MINOR AILMENTS.

(1) *Cuts, Bruises, Sprains, and Minor Injuries, &c.*

Cases occurring in schools while any of the medical or nursing staff are in the school are dealt with by them, but many cases are given First-aid treatment by the teaching staff, many of whom have had First-aid training. Cases which require further treatment are referred to their own doctor, or, if of a serious nature, *e.g.*, fractures, to the Casualty Departments of the Voluntary Hospitals.

(2) *Diseases of the Ear, Nose, and Throat.*

The attendances at the Ear, Nose, and Throat Clinic for the school year 1946-47 are as follows:—

Number of new cases	286
Number referred to hospital	69
Number referred to own doctor	8
Number treated at clinic	143
Number discharged requiring no treatment	56
Total attendances at clinic	2,978
Number discharged cured	139

About 85 per cent. of the new cases are cases of diseases of the ear alone. The vast majority of cases of enlarged tonsils and adenoids are not referred to the Ear, Nose, and Throat Clinic, but are referred to the family doctor in the first instance.

(3) *Diseases of the Eye, excluding Defective Vision.*

These cases continue to be referred, by arrangement, to the Eye Institution, 142, King Street, Aberdeen. The number of cases so referred were 21 of epidemic conjunctivitis and 11 of severe blepharitis.

(4) *Diseases of the Skin.*

Ringworm (scalp)—	
(a) X-ray treatment	24
(b) Other treatment	8
Ringworm (body)	10

All cases of ringworm are referred, by arrangement, for treatment at the Skin Out-Patient Department, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Woolmanhill.

With regard to impetigo, 353 children were treated at the School Skin Clinic, Out-Patient Department, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, requiring 3,753 attendances.

With regard to scabies, these cases are usually referred for treatment to the Cleansing Station at the City (Fever) Hospital along with all contacts (adults as well as children). Two hundred and forty-one families, of whom one or more school-child members of the family were found to be suffering from scabies, were so dealt with involving a total of 377 adults, 475 school children, and 89 children under school age.

There were two cases of body vermin.

## B—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

The work of the School Eye Clinic which is now located at the Out-Patient Department, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Woolmanhill, was carried on by two Ophthalmic Specialists.

Number of cases examined—Boys, 756; girls, 775; total, 1,531.

Spectacles were prescribed in all necessary cases.

Cases of pre-school children referred by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department numbered 38, mostly cases of Hypermetropia with actual or apparent squint.

## C—NOSE AND THROAT (OPERATIVE TREATMENT).

Cases which require operative treatment are referred by the School Aural Surgeon either to the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children or to one of the Municipal Hospitals.

## D—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS (SPECIALIST TREATMENT).

The Orthopædic Clinic, under the auspices of the Cripples' Welfare Association, was commenced in May, 1942. The clinic is held in Charlotte Street Day Nursery at intervals of approximately one month, according to the number of cases to be examined. The clinic is held by one of the Orthopædic Surgeons of Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (Mr. A. Rennie), and special remedial exercises for suitable cases are arranged to take place at least once per week at the nearest Junior Secondary School. These classes are conducted by Specialist Physical Instructors.

During the year, 90 children were examined by the Orthopædic Surgeon, and, of these, 25 were referred to one or other of the Voluntary Hospitals for further

investigation and/or treatment in hospital; special remedial exercises were recommended for 29; and no action further than the slight raising of soles and heels of shoes in some cases was considered necessary in the case of 36 children.

Advantage of the clinic has also been taken, by arrangement, by the parents of 47 children under school age.

### Dental Inspection and Treatment.

Number of children who were inspected by the Dental Officers--

Age	Systematic Examinations
2 . . .	93
3 . . .	195
4 . . .	235
5 . . .	877
6 . . .	1,825
7 . . .	1,423
8 . . .	2,561
9 . . .	1,420
10 . . .	2,504
11 . . .	778
12 . . .	2,264
13 . . .	1,426
14 . . .	316
15 . . .	170
16 . . .	55
17 . . .	10
18 . . .	2
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	16,154
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Number of Dental Officers' visits to schools—172 sessions (half-days).

Of the 16,154 children seen in school, 10,534 were found to require treatment, and, of these, 7,098 or 68.9 per cent. intimated acceptance of treatment; 393 intimated that their children were being privately treated. Refusals numbered 3,043, this being the number of unsigned cards returned at the time of the dental inspections. During the year, fifty to sixty per cent. of these cases ask for treatment but are then classified as emergency cases.

	Systematic Examinations	Special and Emergency Cases
Number of Children actually treated by the School Dental Officers	6,598	2,142
Number of attendances made by children for treatment . . .	11,894	3,389
Fillings—		
(a) Permanent teeth . . . . .	5,571	1,125
(b) Temporary teeth . . . . .	1,833	241

	Systematic Examinations	Special and Emergency Cases
Extractions—		
(a) Permanent teeth . . . . .	1,162	742
(b) Temporary teeth . . . . .	3,042	2,776
Anæsthetics—		
Number of administrations of a general anæsthetic for extractions . . . . .	1,340	1,475
Number of local anæsthetics . . . . .	1,537	322
Other operations—		
(a) Permanent teeth . . . . .	3,369	790
(b) Temporary teeth . . . . .	251	10

The following work was carried out at the School Dental Clinic for Oakbank Industrial School:—

Number of boys inspected . . . . .	615
Number of boys treated . . . . .	99
Attendances for treatment . . . . .	229
Extractions—	
(a) Permanent teeth . . . . .	60
(b) Temporary teeth . . . . .	12
Anæsthetics—	
General . . . . .	43
Local . . . . .	10
Fillings—Permanent teeth . . . . .	104
Scalings . . . . .	48
Dressings . . . . .	19
Gum treatment . . . . .	40

*Orthodontics—*

Number of completed cases . . . . .	14
Number under treatment . . . . .	1
	— 15

The sum of £287 1s. 2d. was collected as voluntary contributions for general anæsthetic cases.

The following work was performed at the School Dental Clinic under the Mother and Child Welfare Scheme:—

	Mothers	Children
Number of cases treated . . . . .	116	207
Number of visits required . . . . .	185	233
Extractions . . . . .	514	438
Anæsthetics—		
General . . . . .	112	185
Local . . . . .	12	1
Fillings . . . . .	20	26

<i>Denture Work—</i>	No. of Patients	Upper Denture	Lower Denture	Total
Mother and Child Welfare	8	6 full	6 full	
		1 partial	1 partial	14
Social Welfare . . . .	15	12 full	13 full	
		1 partial	1 re-model	
		1 re-model		28
Total . . . .	23	21	21	42

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Details as to the progress of diphtheria immunisation amongst children of school age are given in the section of this Report dealing with infectious diseases.

### Statistics.

The work performed during the year by the School Medical Officers is summarised and tabulated as follows:—Summary (1) Preliminary inspection of entrants, and (2) Numbers of children examined in the several age-groups. Table X comprises a return of the number and percentage of individual children in each age-group suffering from particular defects. In Table XI are given the classifications of children examined at systematic medical examinations. Table XII relates to all exceptional children of school age in the area.

#### PRELIMINARY INSPECTION OF "ENTRANTS."

A cursory examination of five-year-old children when they enter school revealed the following details:—

Total number inspected . . . . .	2,203
Dirty Heads—	
Nits . . . . .	168 or 7·3 per cent.
Vermin . . . . .	6 or ·3 per cent.
Squints . . . . .	116 or 5·3 per cent.
Other diseases . . . . .	23 or 1·0 per cent.
Number excluded for various infections . . . . .	18 or ·8 per cent.
Unsatisfactory footgear . . . . .	1 or ·05 per cent.
Unsatisfactory clothing . . . . .	7 or ·3 per cent.

#### CHILDREN EXAMINED IN DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS.

Total number of children examined at—	Systematic Examinations
Ordinary Schools—	
Entrants . . . . .	2,649
Second age-group . . . . .	2,529
Third age-group . . . . .	2,619
Fourth age-group . . . . .	—
Secondary Schools—Age-group . . . . .	315
	8,112
	=====
Re-inspection by Medical Officers . . . . .	5,002
	=====



Number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries)—

Entrants . . . . .	385
Second age-group . . . . .	352
Third age-group . . . . .	309
Fourth age-group . . . . .	—
Secondary age-group . . . . .	21
Other systematic examinations . . . . .	—
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TABLE

SYSTEMATIC

Return of number and percentage of individual children

NATURE OF DEFECT.	Total Examined. All ages.	ENTRANTS.			
		Boys 1,345		Girls 1,304	
1. Clothing unsatisfactory . . . . .	8,112	—	—	3	·2
2. Footgear unsatisfactory . . . . .	„	1	·07	3	·2
3. Cleanliness—					
(a) Head: Nits . . . . .	„	10	·7	21	1·6
Vermin . . . . .	„	—	—	1	·08
(b) Body: Vermin . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
4. Skin—					
(a) Head:					
Ringworm . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
Impetigo . . . . .	„	14	1·0	4	·3
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	1	·07	3	·2
(b) Body:					
Ringworm . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
Impetigo . . . . .	„	3	·2	1	·08
Scabies . . . . .	„	3	·2	3	·2
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	26	1·9	24	1·8
5. Nutritional state—					
Slightly defective . . . . .	„	5	·4	1	·08
Bad . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
6. Mouth and Teeth Unhealthy . . . . .	„	11	·8	10	·8
7. Naso-Pharynx—					
(a) Nose:					
(i) Obstruction requiring observation . . . . .	„	134	10·0	118	9·0
(ii) Obstruction requiring Operative Treatment . . . . .	„	4	·3	4	·3
(iii) Other Conditions . . . . .	„	1	·07	—	—
(b) Throat:					
(i) Tonsils requiring observation . . . . .	„	464	34·5	500	38·3
(ii) Tonsils requiring Operative Treatment . . . . .	„	102	7·6	100	7·7
(c) Glands:					
(i) Requiring observation . . . . .	„	37	2·8	30	2·3
(ii) Requiring Operative Treatment . . . . .	„	—	—	1	·08
8. Eyes—					
(a) External Diseases:					
Blepharitis . . . . .	„	14	1·0	23	1·8
Conjunctivitis . . . . .	„	1	·07	2	·2
Corneal Opacities . . . . .	„	1	·07	—	—
Squint . . . . .	„	90	6·7	99	7·6
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	10	·7	8	·6
(b) Visual Acuity (Snellen):					
Defective—Fair . . . . .	5,463	—	—	—	—
Bad . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
Recommended for Refraction . . . . .	„	48	3·6	42	3·2
Number with Glasses . . . . .	8,112	35	2·6	38	2·9
9. Ears—					
(a) Diseases:					
Otorrhœa . . . . .	„	9	·7	16	1·2
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	18	1·3	11	·8

## X

## EXAMINATIONS.

in each age-group suffering from particular defects.

SECOND AGE-GROUP.				THIRD AGE-GROUP.				FOURTH AGE-GROUP.				ALL AGES.			
Boys 1,292		Girls 1,237		Boys 1,372		Girls 1,247		Boys 172		Girls 143		Boys 4,181		Girls 3,931	
3	·2	—	—	2	·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	·1	3	·08
4	·3	1	·08	2	·1	1	·1	—	—	—	—	7	·2	5	·1
11	·9	38	3·1	7	·5	14	1·1	—	—	—	—	28	·7	73	1·9
1	·08	1	·08	1	·07	3	·2	—	—	—	—	2	·05	5	·1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	·5	11	·9	9	·7	2	·2	—	—	—	—	30	·7	17	·4
4	·3	1	·08	5	·4	6	·5	—	—	—	—	10	·2	10	·3
—	—	—	—	1	·07	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	·02	—	—
3	·2	3	·2	5	·4	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	·3	4	·1
4	·3	2	·2	1	·07	3	·2	—	—	—	—	8	·2	8	·2
37	2·9	26	2·1	30	2·2	35	2·8	2	1·2	2	1·4	95	2·3	87	2·2
15	1·2	15	1·2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	·5	16	·4
1	·08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	·02	—	—
6	·5	10	·8	4	·3	3	·2	4	2·3	1	·7	25	·6	24	·6
115	8·9	60	4·9	140	10·2	94	7·5	2	1·2	9	6·3	391	9·4	281	7·1
3	·2	—	—	1	·07	1	·1	—	—	—	—	8	·2	5	·1
4	·3	2	·2	2	·1	3	·2	2	1·2	—	—	9	·2	5	·1
238	18·4	292	23·6	183	13·3	208	16·7	1	·6	8	5·6	886	21·2	1,008	25·6
54	4·2	44	3·6	9	·7	19	1·5	—	—	—	—	165	3·9	163	4·1
33	2·6	24	1·9	14	1·0	9	·7	1	·6	—	—	85	2·0	63	1·6
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	·03
26	2·0	32	2·6	25	1·8	21	1·7	—	—	1	·7	65	1·6	77	2·0
1	·08	1	·08	1	·07	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	·07	3	·08
2	·2	2	·2	1	·07	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	·1	2	·05
33	2·6	57	4·6	23	1·7	35	2·8	1	·6	1	·7	147	3·5	192	4·9
14	1·1	22	1·8	16	1·2	16	1·3	1	·6	3	2·1	41	1·0	49	1·2
281	21·7	296	23·9	201	14·7	232	18·6	29	16·9	23	16·1	511	18·0	551	21·0
26	2·0	27	2·2	14	1·0	21	1·7	—	—	4	2·8	40	1·4	52	2·0
83	6·4	81	6·5	98	7·1	68	5·5	7	4·1	5	3·5	188	6·6	154	5·9
114	8·8	159	12·9	117	8·5	132	10·6	20	11·6	21	14·7	286	6·8	350	8·9
8	·6	10	·8	8	·6	14	1·1	—	—	—	—	25	·6	40	1·0
17	1·3	10	·8	25	1·8	13	1·0	2	1·2	—	—	62	1·5	34	·9

TABLE  
SYSTEMATIC

Return of number and percentage of individual children

NATURE OF DEFECT.	Total exam- ined. All ages.	ENTRANTS.			
		Boys 1,345		Girls 1,304	
9. Ears—(Continued)—					
(b) Defective Hearing :					
Grade I . . . . .	5,463	—	—	1	·08
Grade IIA . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
Grade IIB . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
Grade III . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
10. Speech—					
Defective Articulation . . . . .	8,112	17	1·3	6	·5
Stammering . . . . .	„	1	·07	1	·08
11. Mental and Nervous Condition—					
(a) Backward . . . . .	„	2	·1	1	·08
(b) Full . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
(c) Mentally Deficient (Educable) . . . . .	„	1	·07	1	·08
(d) Mentally Deficient (Ineducable) . . . . .	„	—	—	—	—
(e) Highly Nervous or Unstable . . . . .	„	5	·4	3	·2
(f) Difficult in Behaviour . . . . .	„	2	·1	1	·08
12. Circulatory System—					
(a) Organic Heart Disease :					
(i) Congenital . . . . .	„	1	·07	1	·08
(ii) Acquired . . . . .	„	2	·1	—	—
(b) Functional Conditions . . . . .	„	6	·4	6	·5
13. Lungs—					
Chronic Bronchitis . . . . .	„	—	—	1	·08
Suspected Tuberculosis . . . . .	„	4	·3	1	·08
Other Diseases . . . . .	„	75	5·6	60	4·6
14. Deformities—					
(a) Congenital . . . . .	„	7	·5	3	·2
(b) Acquired (Infantile Paralysis) . . . . .	„	1	·07	—	—
(c) Acquired (Probably Rickets) . . . . .	„	22	1·6	8	·6
(d) Acquired (Other Causes) . . . . .	„	24	1·8	11	·8
15. Infectious Disease . . . . .	„	1	·07	4	·3
16. Other Diseases or Defects . . . . .	„	130	9·7	111	8·5
17. Classification :					
Group I . . . . .	„	405	30·1	411	31·5
Group IIA . . . . .	5,463	—	—	—	—
Group IIB . . . . .	8,112	3	·2	1	·08
Group IIC . . . . .	5,463	—	—	—	—
Group III . . . . .	8,112	792	58·9	795	61·0
Group IVA . . . . .	„	110	8·2	82	6·3
Group IVB . . . . .	„	35	2·6	15	1·2
Number Notified to Parents . . . . .	„	192	14·3	193	14·8
Number under observation . . . . .	„	735	54·6	682	52·3
Number of Parents present . . . . .	„	1,246	92·6	1,254	96·2

X (Continued.)

## EXAMINATIONS.

in each age-group suffering from particular defects.

SECOND AGE-GROUP.				THIRD AGE-GROUP.				FOURTH AGE-GROUP.				ALL AGES.			
Boys 1,292		Girls 1,237		Boys 1,372		Girls 1,247		Boys 172		Girls 143		Boys 4,181		Girls 3,931	
4	3	2	2	3	2	6	5	—	—	—	—	7	2	8	3
1	08	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	—	—	3	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	3	—	—	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	24	6	7	2
4	3	3	2	10	7	2	2	—	—	—	—	15	4	6	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	2	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	1	4	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	02	1	03
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	6	3	2	3	2	6	5	—	—	1	7	16	4	13	3
1	08	1	08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	07	2	05
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	2	1	08	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	2	05
3	2	1	08	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	7	2	2	05
5	4	9	7	3	2	11	9	1	6	1	7	15	4	27	7
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	2	2	2	1	07	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	07	3	08
3	2	2	2	7	5	4	3	—	—	—	—	14	3	7	2
33	26	18	15	36	26	14	11	1	6	1	7	145	35	93	24
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	2	3	2	3	2	4	3	1	6	—	—	14	3	10	3
2	2	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	07	3	08
22	17	15	12	20	15	21	17	—	—	—	—	64	15	44	11
16	12	11	9	36	26	19	15	4	23	1	7	80	19	42	11
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	08	2	2	1	07	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	07	6	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
159	123	159	129	156	114	192	154	2	12	26	182	447	107	488	124
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
426	330	407	329	620	452	506	406	126	733	76	531	1,577	377	1,400	356
161	125	155	125	121	88	140	112	25	145	17	119	307	108	312	119
1	08	1	08	—	—	—	—	2	12	—	—	6	1	2	05
1	08	1	08	—	—	1	1	1	6	1	7	2	07	3	1
510	395	489	395	415	302	349	280	12	70	20	140	1,729	414	1,653	421
163	126	163	132	186	136	224	180	3	17	29	203	462	110	498	127
30	23	21	17	30	22	27	22	3	17	—	—	98	23	63	16
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
189	146	169	137	167	122	142	114	15	87	6	42	563	135	510	130
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
570	441	570	461	536	391	529	424	19	110	57	399	1,860	445	1,838	468
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1,089	843	1,120	905	808	589	858	688	35	203	18	126	3,178	760	3,250	827

TABLE XI.

## SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

CLASSIFICATION	ENTRANTS		SECOND AGE-GROUP		THIRD AGE-GROUP		FOURTH AGE-GROUP		TOTAL	
	No. of Children	Percentage of the Children examined in this Group	No. of Children	Percentage of the Children examined in this Group	No. of Children	Percentage of the Children examined in this Group	No. of Children	Percentage of the Children examined in this Group	No. of Children	Percentage of the children examined systematically at examinations
I. Children free from defects . . . . .	816	30.8	833	32.9	1,126	43.0	202	64.1	2,977	36.7
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—										
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses . . . . .	—	—	316	12.5	261	10.0	42	13.3	619	7.6
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment . . . . .	4	.2	2	.08	—	—	2	.6	8	.1
(c) Both (a) and (b) . . . . .	—	—	2	.08	1	.04	2	.6	5	.06
Total . . . . .	4	.2	320	12.7	262	10.0	46	14.6	632	7.8
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks . . . . .	1,587	59.9	999	39.5	764	29.2	32	10.2	3,382	41.7
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in II. or III., distinguishing cases—										
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible . . . . .	192	7.2	326	12.9	410	15.7	32	10.2	960	11.8
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function . . . . .	50	1.9	51	2.0	57	2.2	3	1.0	161	2.0
Total . . . . .	242	9.1	377	14.9	467	17.8	35	11.1	1,121	13.8
Total number of children examined . . . . .	2,649	100%	2,529	100%	2,619	100%	315	100%	8,112	100%



TABLE XII.

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA.

DISABILITY	At Ordinary Schools	At Special Schools or Classes	At no School or Institution	TOTAL
1. Blind . . . . .	--	1	3	4
2. Partially sighted—				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition . . . . .	—	14	—	14
(b) Other conditions of the eye, <i>e.g.</i> , cataract, ulceration, &c., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school . . . . .	—	4	—	4
3. Deaf—				
Grade I . . . . .	42	—	—	42
Grade IIa . . . . .	5	—	—	5
Grade IIb . . . . .	—	7	—	7
Grade III . . . . .	—	44	—	44
4. Defective Speech—				
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures . . . . .	106	—	—	106
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures . . . . .	80	3	—	83
5. Mentally defective children (between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Educable (I. Q. approx. 50-70) . . . . .	—	250	—	250
(b) Ineducable (I. Q. generally less than 50) . . . . .	—	2	55	57
6. Epilepsy—				
(a) Mild and occasional . . . . .	6	8	—	14
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school) . . . . .	—	3	—	3
7. Physically defective children (between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands) . . . . .	13	3	—	16
(b) General orthopaedic conditions . . . . .	171	16	—	187
(c) Organic Heart Disease . . . . .	178	1	—	179
(d) Other causes of ill-health . . . . .	—	6	—	6
8. Multiple defects—				
(a) Mentally defective and deaf . . . . .	—	2	—	2
(b) Mentally defective and physically defective . . . . .	—	4	—	4

VENEREAL DISEASES SERVICES.

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**General Incidence.**

As stated in the Annual Report for 1946, associated with the release of personnel from the Services, a peak was reached in that year in the incidence of venereal infections in the City and North-Eastern Counties but a decline had become apparent towards the end of the year. This decline was maintained throughout 1947.

New registrations for 1947 numbered 1,355. There were 1,143 *new cases*, i.e., those who had never been treated previously for the same infection at any other centre or hospital, and 212 *transfers-in*, i.e., those whose treatment had been initiated and perhaps completed elsewhere, and who were subsequently referred to the Aberdeen Treatment Centres for continuation of treatment or for subsequent observation.

Of the total of 1,355 new registrations, 740 were patients from the City of Aberdeen, including 5 Service cases; the remaining 615 cases consisted of 479 civilians and 136 Forces cases from other areas, chiefly the North-Eastern Counties. Cases of actual venereal disease of one form or other numbered 954, while 401 were found, after appropriate examination and observation, to have escaped infection.

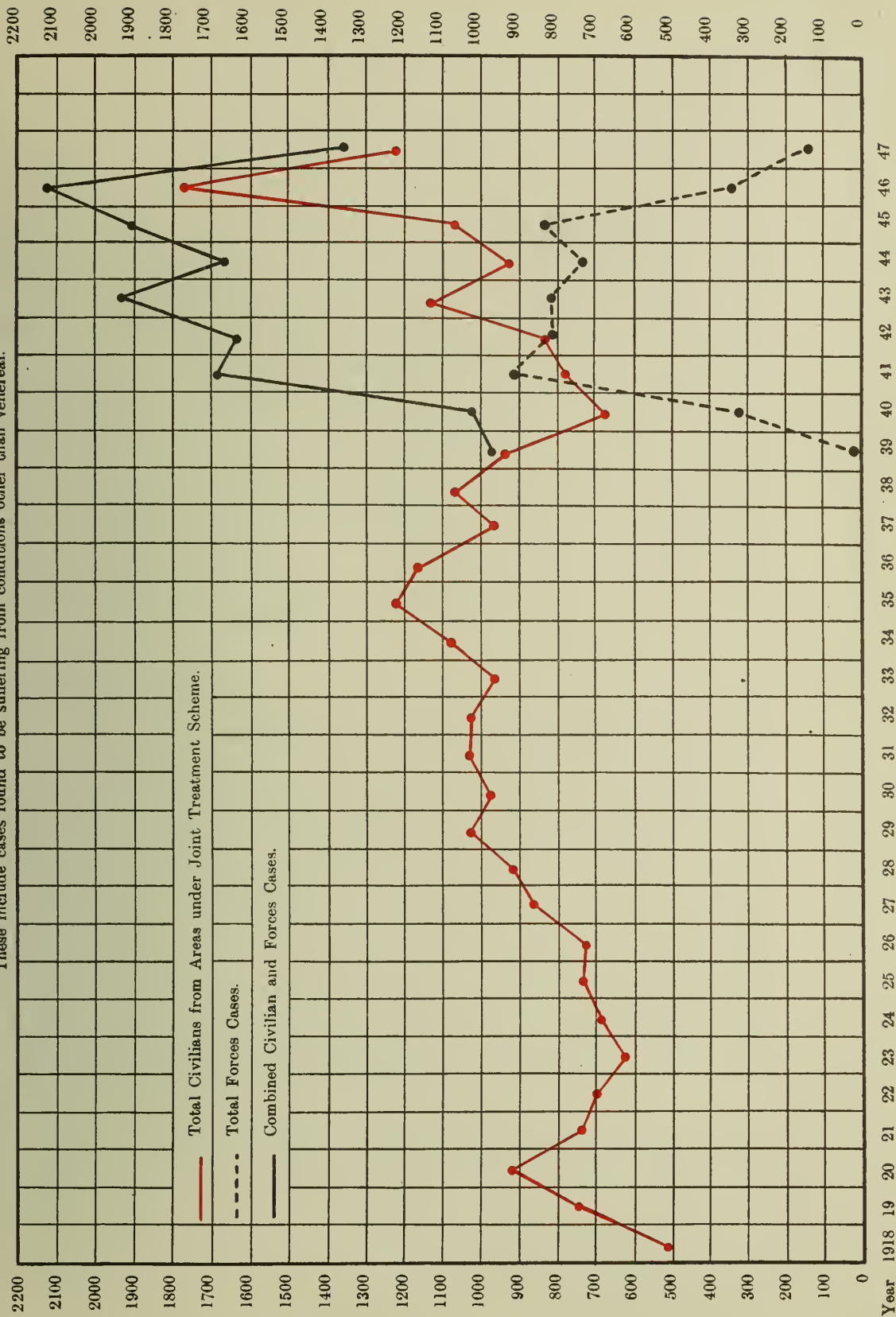
As will be noted in the accompanying graph, the figure for 1947 is the lowest since 1941, falling sharply from the peak of 2,119 of 1946 down to only 109 more than the highest of the inter-war years, namely, 1,226 new registrations in 1935. This decline is most gratifying, as is also the large proportion of cases, approximately one-third of the total of 1947, who attended, either voluntarily or at the request of the clinic staffs, for examination lest they had been infected, and were eventually pronounced free from venereal disease. It is to be hoped that still greater use will be made of the venereal diseases services in the region for the exclusion of infection.

**Special Aspects.**

The proportion of syphilis to gonorrhœa remains high, in fact, during 1947, the former outnumbered the latter. While it is possible that the majority of cases of syphilis are seen and treated relatively early in the course of their disease, it is certain that an unknown proportion, for various reasons, fail to receive early

# VENEREAL DISEASES.

Yearly \*New Registrations at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and City Hospital Treatment Centres.  
 These include cases found to be suffering from conditions other than venereal.



\*See text for explanation of term "New Registrations."



attention. With the high incidence of syphilis over the past seven years, it is more than likely that an increase in latent and in late active forms of both acquired and congenital syphilis will soon be encountered.

The relatively small proportion of gonorrhœal cases may be explained partly by the fact that a modern chemotherapeutic measure, such as penicillin, renders it comparatively easy for such cases to be treated privately instead of at a public clinic. But the actual treatment of gonorrhœa is the least difficult part of the general control of the disease. Much more onerous and time-consuming is the carrying out of repeated post-treatment examinations over a period of at least six months to ensure that cure has been effected, and also that syphilis may be excluded. A certain proportion of those who contract gonorrhœa also acquire syphilis at, or about, the same time. The former infection shows itself usually in a matter of days; the latter may take weeks or months before becoming evident. Penicillin is effective in both diseases, and its use in the treatment of gonorrhœa has raised certain doubts as to whether or not it may mask or delay the onset of concomitantly acquired syphilis, still in its incubation period, at the time when the penicillin is given for the developed gonorrhœa. An adequately long period of observation of penicillin-treated cases of gonorrhœa is advisable to exclude the possibility of such co-existing syphilis—the much more dangerous disease—a point which the medical profession must bear in mind.

### Medico-Social Aspects.

More attention is now being paid to the epidemiological and medico-social aspects of venereal disease generally. It is not sufficient merely to treat the infected individual, who is only one link in a chain of infection. Sources of infection and other contacts, including sometimes the entire family, must be examined. Important also is the education of patients in order to obtain their full co-operation in attending regularly for treatment and for subsequent observation. In this country, where attendance at public clinics for diagnosis and treatment is on a purely voluntary basis, everything which tends directly or indirectly to interfere, first, with the approach of the patient to the clinic, and, later, with regularity of treatment, must be counteracted. The employment of social workers to assist in the finding of infectious or infected individuals, and in smoothing out the numerous difficulties which may militate against regular attendance is a highly important branch of anti-venereal measures and is being expanded. The nation is now better equipped than it was, at a corresponding period after the first World War, to deal with venereal disease, and a considerable decline in the incidence of fresh infections should occur within the next few years.

*Statistics.*—The following table refers to the New Registrations at the two Centres—Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Out-Patient Department and City (Fever) Hospital.

NEW REGISTRATIONS AT ABERDEEN ROYAL INFIRMARY AND CITY HOSPITAL  
TREATMENT CENTRES. *Years 1918-1947.*

YEAR.	Total No. of New Registrations.*	Aberdeen City.*	Other Areas.*	Non-Civilian (included in foregoing figures).
Average 1918-22 .	727	573	154	—
„ 1923-27 .	735	544	191	—
„ 1928-32 .	1003	753	250	—
„ 1933-37 .	1085	764	321	—
„ 1938-42 .	1280	714	566	684
1943 . . .	1939	963	976	808
1944 . . .	1670	851	819	728
1945 . . .	1903	985	918	830
1946 . . .	2119	1112	1007	345
1947 . . .	1355	740	615	141

\* Combined Civilian and Forces Cases from 1940.

Table XIII shows the number of *new registrations*—(A) From all Areas—Combined Civilian and Forces Cases; (B) From City of Aberdeen—Civilian Cases only.

The following table gives the *new* cases of venereal infections arranged in selected age-groups:—

NEW CASES OF VENEREAL INFECTIONS ACCORDING TO AGE (ALL AREAS)—1947:1946.

Age	*Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Soft Chancres		Non-specific		TOTAL 1947		TOTAL 1946		Congenital Syphilis			
													1947		1946	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	—	4	—	1	—
1—4 years .	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	3
5-14 do.	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	5	1	2	—	4
15-24 do.	31	22	77	20	4	—	64	32	176	74	326	94	2	3	5	2
25-34 do.	29	40	102	17	1	—	81	17	213	74	388	81	1	7	3	4
35 and over .	65	27	48	4	—	—	51	4	164	35	213	55	2	—	3	4
Total 1947 .	131	92	228	44	5	—	196	53	560	189	929	238	11	13	13	17
Total 1946 .	164	112	420	54	5	—	340	72	929	238	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Includes Congenital Syphilis.

In 1947, 394 or 34 per cent. of the new cases were diagnosed to be not suffering from venereal disease, and are excluded from the above table.



**Attendances for Treatment.**

As will be seen from Table XIV, the total number of attendances at both centres of cases from all areas during 1947 was 19,937, as against an average of 23,224 for the quinquennium 1942-1946.

As regards the City of Aberdeen alone, the number of attendances during 1947 was 14,605, as compared with an average of 16,548 for the preceding quinquennium.

**In-Patients.**

Table XV shows the number of cases dealt with in hospital. During the year, 204 cases from all areas were admitted for in-patient treatment. The average number admitted during the 1942-1946 quinquennium was 542. The reduction in the number of in-patients in 1947 is largely due to the efficacy of new methods of treatment.

**Laboratory Examinations.**

The total examinations carried out under the Joint Scheme during 1947 was 27,873 as compared with an average of 27,613 in the 1942-1946 quinquennium.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

The number of cases reported during 1947 was 7, as against an average annual number of 6 during the preceding quinquennium. In *one* case, the infection was proved to be gonococcal.

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JOINT SCHEME FOR TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES IN CITY OF ABERDEEN  
AND NORTH-EASTERN COUNTIES.

*Treatment Centres at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and City Hospital.*

TABLE XIII.—NUMBER OF NEW REGISTRATIONS.

(A) From all Areas—Combined Civilian and Forces Cases.							
Year	Treatment Centre	Total	Syphilis	Gonorrhœa	Soft Chancre	N.S.V.D.	Conditions other than Venereal
1947	Royal Infirmary . . .	1,171	285	308	7	236	335
	City Hospital . . .	184	54	27	1	36	66
	Both Centres . . .	1,355	339	335	8	272	401
Average 1942-46	Do. . . . .	1,853	460	574	7	420	392
(B) From City of Aberdeen—Civilian Cases only.							
1947	Both Centres . . .	735	171	153	—	162	249
Average 1942-46	Do. . . . .	744	178	181	3	148	234

TABLE XIV.—ATTENDANCES AT TREATMENT CENTRES FROM ALL AREAS.

Year	Treatment Centre	Total	Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Soft Chancre		N.S.V.D.		Conditions other than Venereal	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1947	Royal Infirmary . . .	17,674	6137	4836	2174	874	24	—	1411	664	840	714
	City Hospital . . .	2,263	870	781	167	26	1	—	118	91	88	121
	Both Centres . . .	19,937	7007	5617	2341	900	25	—	1529	755	928	835
Average 1942-46	Do. . . . .	23,224	6961	7046	2787	2003	28	6	1366	1033	619	825

TABLE XV.—IN-PATIENT CASES FROM ALL AREAS.

Year	Total	Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Soft Chancre		N.S.V.D.		Conditions other than Venereal	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1947	204	96	60	19	4	3	—	6	9	4	3
Average 1942-46	542	190		239		2		90		21	

## BLIND PERSONS SERVICES.

*Statistics relative to Blind Persons.***Registration.**

BURGH OF ABERDEEN—REGISTER OF THE BLIND AS AT 1ST APRIL, 1947—NUMBERS  
ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS OF ALL BLIND PERSONS ON THE REGISTER.

0-2		3-4		5-15		16-17		18-29		30-39		40-49		50-69		70+		TOTAL		
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	T.
—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	12	3	14	15	18	28	57	57	43	65	147	170	317

**Certification of Blindness—Regional Clinic.**

During the year ended 31st March, 1947, there were examined for the first time a total of 42 persons—27 at the clinic and 15 at home. In addition, 15 persons underwent re-examination, making a total of 57 cases examined, as compared with 51 in the preceding year.

The details of these examinations for year 1946-1947 are as follows:—

	No. examined for first time.		Re-exam- inations	TOTAL
	At Clinic	Domiciliary		
City of Aberdeen . . .	21	10	13	44
County of Aberdeen . . .	4	5	2	11
County of Kincardine . . .	2	—	—	2
	—	—	—	—
	27	15	15	57
	==	==	==	==

Of the 42 applicants examined, 33, or 79 per cent., were certified blind within the meaning of the Act, including 25 cases belonging to the City of Aberdeen.

**Employment of Blind Persons of 16 years and upwards.**

At 31st March, 1947, the following blind persons were in employment:—

In Institutions for the Blind—	Males	Females
Undergoing industrial training . . . . .	3	1
Undergoing secondary or professional education . . . . .	1	—
In workshops . . . . .	37	9
Outwith Institutions for the Blind . . . . .	*10	2

\* Including 3 home workers.

### Domiciliary Assistance.

The allowances paid to domiciliary recipients have been revised from time to time.

The following summary gives the state as regards marriage of those blind persons who were in receipt of domiciliary assistance at 31st March, 1947:—

<i>Males—</i>		<i>Females—</i>	
Married . . . . .	31	Married . . . . .	19
Single or widowed . . . . .	33	Single or widowed . . . . .	77
	—		—
	64		96
	—		—
Total . . . . .	160		

As regards medical attendance, the Council continued the services of Dr. John H. Stephen to give medical attention to sick necessitous blind persons. This arrangement has worked most satisfactorily.

Arrangements have been made whereby medicines are supplied on special prescription forms, these forms being sent to the Central Checking Bureau, Glasgow, for purposes of pricing.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

### 1. Lunacy—Kingseat Mental Hospital.

Kingseat Mental Hospital was requisitioned by the Admiralty in September, 1939, and from then until 28th February, 1946, it was functioning as a Naval Auxiliary Hospital. During that period several officials and many members of the staff had left the hospital service, and when the hospital was re-opened there were only 19 male and 12 female nurses, whilst approximately 600 patients were distributed over various institutions throughout the country.

The task of re-conditioning and re-equipping the various villas was taken in hand immediately after the Naval Authorities had vacated the institution. Very great difficulty was experienced in the recruitment both of nursing and domestic staffs. At the end of 1947 five villas had been re-opened for the return of male patients, and the nursing staff had increased to a total of 87. On the female side, nurses have proved to be unobtainable, and thus it has been found impossible to re-open any part of the female side of the hospital.

Early in 1947 proposals were submitted by H.Q., Scottish Command, for the formation at Kingseat of a military wing, consisting of 200 beds for patients and 100 beds for nursing and medical staff, the opening date being fixed for 15th May. Six villas were reserved for the use of the Army, and were fully prepared and equipped. On two separate occasions the opening date was postponed, and, finally,

towards the end of the year, the scheme was cancelled. As a result, the number of patients returned to the hospital during the year was considerably smaller than had been estimated originally.

The following summary shows the position in respect of admissions, discharges, and deaths of male patients during the year ended 31st December, 1947:—

1. *Certified*—

	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
In the hospital on 31/12/46				89	—	89
Absent on probation . . .				—	—	—
Absent on pass . . . . .				—	—	—
Total on register . . . . .				89	—	89
Returned from War Emergency Evacuation	116	—	116			

*Cases Admitted*—

First admissions . . . . .	2	—	2			
Not first admissions . . . . .	74	—	74	192	—	192
Total cases under care during the year				281	—	281

*Cases Discharged*—

Recovered . . . . .	3	—	3			
Relieved . . . . .	—	—	—			
Not improved . . . . .	—	—	—			
Cases died . . . . .	4	—	4	3	—	3
Remaining in hospital on 31/12/47				4	—	4
Absent on probation . . . . .	—	—	—	274	—	274
Absent on pass . . . . .	—	—	—			
Total on register at 31/12/47				274	—	274

2. *Voluntary*—

In the hospital on 31/12/46				2	—	2
Admitted since . . . . .	12	—	12	12	—	12
Discharged . . . . .	2	—	2	14	—	14
Died . . . . .	1	—	1	3	—	3
Remaining in hospital at 31/12/47				11	—	11

In order to provide additional dining-hall accommodation for the increased nursing staff it was recommended that a building erected by the Naval Authorities during their period of tenure of the hospital should be reconstructed for this purpose. As regards accommodation for resident nursing staff, provision will require to be made to the extent of 30 additional beds for male and 30 for female members of the staff.

It should be noted that the accommodation for cases suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis has never been satisfactory at this hospital. Consideration should therefore be given to the building of a suitable unit to accommodate, say, 20 patients—10 male and 10 female.

At the request of the Kingseat Sub-Committee, the staff of the North of Scotland College of Agriculture submitted a number of recommendations which included alterations on the farm buildings—the reconstruction of the byres, the provision of a new milk-house and dairy scullery, and the provision of an implement and tractor shed. Arrangements have been completed for the installation of a pump and underground storage tank for fuel for the tractor.

The recreation facilities provided for the patients comprise the exhibition of films during the winter months. Visiting concert parties gave their services which were highly appreciated.

## **2. Mental Deficiency.**

In 1946, there was submitted a report on the incidence of mental deficiency in the North-East of Scotland and the institutional accommodation necessary to deal with this difficult problem. The report showed that there was a great shortage of certified institutions for mental defectives throughout the country, and that, both for humanitarian and medical reasons, it was necessary that adequate provision should be made for mental defectives.

The report was fully considered, but, up to the end of 1947, no practical steps had been taken to relieve the position.

## **3. Psycho-pathological Services.**

The Scheme whereby the Local Authorities of the City of Aberdeen and of the Counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine utilise the services of the Psycho-pathology Department of Aberdeen University, commenced ten years ago. The total numbers of City cases dealt with in 1945, 1946, and 1947 were 356, 423, and 391 respectively. In each of these years the psychiatric social worker paid over 1,000 visits to the homes of patients resident in the areas of the three Local Authorities.

In 1944, a Child Guidance Clinic was established to deal with children under twelve years of age. This clinic has its headquarters at the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children.

The Psycho-pathology Department of the University has established good contacts with many of the Primary and Intermediate schools in the City. It is gratifying to note that the Courts and Probation Officers are making increasing use of these Psycho-pathological facilities which are of immeasurable value to them in dealing with juvenile delinquents.



### OUTDOOR MEDICAL SERVICES.

Domiciliary medical services are provided for the statutory poor through five part-time medical officers, each of whom has a special district allocated to him.

The following table shows the number of sick poor treated during each quarter of the year 1947:—

CITY OF ABERDEEN—OUTDOOR MEDICAL RELIEF—*Year 1947.*

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Number of Sick Poor under attendance during Quarter . . . .	659	651	612	703
Number of Visits . . . . .	578	332	451	503
Number of Consultations . . . .	1,329	1,250	1,049	1,349

The number of visits and consultations made during the past five years is shown hereunder:—

	Visits	Consultations
1943 . . . . .	2,847	6,025
1944 . . . . .	2,597	6,187
1945 . . . . .	2,278	5,785
1946 . . . . .	2,119	5,565
1947 . . . . .	1,864	4,977

In 1947, the visits and consultations showed a decrease as compared with previous years.

### PORT SANITARY SERVICES.

#### Medical Inspection of Shipping.

Under the Port Health Regulations of 1933 and 1945, in relation to vessels arriving from foreign ports during 1947, the usual Declarations of Health were received by this department. No cases of infectious disease were discovered on board the vessels.

Five seamen received in-patient treatment in the municipal hospitals, and 7 received out-patient treatment during 1947. The in-patients were suspected cases of the ordinary type of infectious disease.

#### Venereal Diseases—Merchant Seamen.

The number of *new* cases dealt with at the Aberdeen Treatment Centres for the year 1947 was 182. This figure does not include transfers-in who had been previously treated elsewhere. Details are given below:—

	British	Foreign	Total
Syphilis . . . . .	26	2	28
Gonorrhœa . . . . .	47	12	59
Soft Sore . . . . .	—	1	1
Non-specific Venereal Disease . . . .	39	4	43
Non-venereal . . . . .	45	6	51
	157	25	182

## LABORATORY SERVICES.

The aim of the Department is to provide laboratory facilities for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease.

During the year 1947 the total number of examinations carried out for all areas was 70,463, as compared with 75,614 in 1946.

Details are given under the following headings for the year 1947:—

I. Number and results of examinations for the City of Aberdeen (including City Hospitals, Institutions, and Sub-Departments).

II. Number of examinations for other Local Authorities within the Laboratory Services Scheme and for the Services.

I.				Year 1947
	Positive	Negative	Total	Grand Total
<i>Bacillary Dysentery—</i>				
Fæces . . . . .	37	693	730	730
<i>Weil's Disease—</i>				
Blood agglutinations . . . . .	—	—	37	37
<i>Undulant Fever—</i>				
Blood agglutinations . . . . .	—	—	136	136
<i>Glandular Fever—</i>				
Paul Bunnell Test . . . . .	—	—	40	40
<i>Biochemical Examinations—</i>				
Bloods . . . . .	—	—	1,037	
Urines . . . . .	—	—	199	
Fæces . . . . .	—	—	508	
Gastric contents . . . . .	—	—	99	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	—	—	9	
			—	1,852
<i>Hæmatological—</i>				
Blood counts . . . . .	—	—	1,748	
Differential cell counts . . . . .	—	—	1,013	
			—	2,761
<i>Amæbic Dysentery—</i>				
Fæces . . . . .	—	—	106	106
<i>Waters—</i>				
Bacteriological examination of waters . . . . .	—	—	415	
Chemical examination of waters . . . . .	—	—	5	
Swimming bath waters . . . . .	—	—	274	694
<i>Whooping Cough—</i>				
Throat swabs . . . . .	—	—	2	2
<i>Carry forward</i>				6,358

	Positive	Negative	Total	Year 1947 Grand Total
	<i>Brought forward</i>			6,358
<i>Tuberculosis—</i>				
Sputum . . . . .	841	2,421	3,262	
Fæces . . . . .	—	9	9	
Urines . . . . .	1	45	46	
Pus . . . . .	10	71	81	
Chest fluids . . . . .	2	77	79	
Cerebro-spinal fluids . . . . .	4	57	61	
Gastric contents . . . . .	2	78	80	
			<hr/>	3,618
<i>Venereal Diseases—</i>				
Bloods for Wassermann reactions . . . . .	777	6,231	7,008	
Bloods for Laughlen tests . . . . .	926	6,088	7,014	
Pus smears for gonococci . . . . .	176	2,960	3,136	
Bloods for gonococcal complement fixation tests . . . . .	8	62	70	
Serum for spirochaetes . . . . .	3	7	10	
Cerebro-spinal fluids for Wassermann reactions . . . . .	91	347	438	
			<hr/>	17,676
<i>Diphtheria—</i>				
Throat, nose, and ear swabs . . . . .	30	2,697	2,727	2,727
<i>Puerperal Fever—</i>				
Blood cultures . . . . .	—	—	85	
Pus . . . . .	—	—	194	
			<hr/>	279
<i>Enteric and Food Poisoning—</i>				
Blood cultures . . . . .	—	—	191	
Widals . . . . .	—	—	254	
Fæces . . . . .	—	—	407	
Urines . . . . .	—	—	183	
Foodstuffs . . . . .	—	—	26	
Bile . . . . .	—	—	1	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	—	—	7	
			<hr/>	1,069
<i>Milk—</i>				
Bacteriological examination of milks . . . . .	—	—	79	
Milks for phosphatase test . . . . .	—	—	314	
Milks for fat estimation . . . . .	—	—	525	
Milks for methylene blue test . . . . .	—	—	457	
Milks for resazurin test . . . . .	—	—	5	
Milk for freezing point test . . . . .	—	—	3	
Milk for organisms . . . . .	—	—	1	
Empty milk bottles for organisms . . . . .	—	—	4	
			<hr/>	1,388
	<i>Carry forward</i>			<hr/> 33,115

	Positive	Negative	Total	Year 1947 Grand Total
	Brought forward		-	33,115
General Examinations—				
Worms and ova . . . . .	—	—	39	
Bloods for malaria . . . . .	—	—	40	
Seminal fluids . . . . .	—	—	17	
Histological specimens . . . . .	—	—	725	
Vaccines . . . . .	—	—	11	
Ophthalmia neonatorum . . . . .	2	35	37	
Throat swabs for Vincent's bacilli . . .	—	—	150	
Throat, nose, and ear swabs for organisms . . . . .	—	—	2,274	
Sputum for organisms . . . . .	—	—	131	
Pus for organisms . . . . .	—	—	474	
Cervical swabs for organisms . . . . .	—	—	145	
Blood cultures . . . . .	—	—	146	
Cerebro-spinal fluids (other than tuber- culous or luetic) . . . . .	—	—	786	
Teeth swabs . . . . .	—	—	2	
Eye swabs . . . . .	—	—	72	
Urines for pathological examination . .	—	—	2,302	
Urines for bacteriological examinations .	—	—	1,352	
Blood grouping . . . . .	—	—	43	
Fæces for organisms . . . . .	—	—	1,182	
Penicillin estimations . . . . .	—	—	26	
Streptomycin estimations . . . . .	—	—	37	
Blood agglutins for B. coli . . . . .	—	—	52	
Cold agglutins . . . . .	—	—	4	
Paint samples from City Engineer . . .	—	—	2	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	—	—	4	
			—	10,053
Autopsies . . . . .	—	—	124	124
Experimental—				
Miscellaneous . . . . .	—	—	69	69
Animal Inoculations—				
Human specimens inoculated into guinea pigs for tubercle bacilli . . . . .	—	—	515	
Milk specimens inoculated into guinea pigs for tubercle bacilli . . . . .	—	—	1	
Cultures of C. diphtheriæ inoculated into guinea pigs for virulence test . . . .	—	—	9	
Urines inoculated into rabbits for pregnancy tests . . . . .	—	—	105	
Urines inoculated into toads for preg- nancy tests . . . . .	—	—	45	675
				44,036

	Total Number of Examinations
Aberdeenshire . . . . .	14,674
Banffshire . . . . .	2,691
Kincairdineshire . . . . .	1,867
Moray and Nairn . . . . .	4,355
Orkney . . . . .	399
Shetland . . . . .	698
The Services . . . . .	1,743
	<hr/>
	26,427
	<hr/>

#### ANALYSIS UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT.

In 1947 the number of samples analysed under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act was 647, as compared with 548 in 1946.

#### MEAT INSPECTION SERVICES.

There are four private slaughter-houses licensed within the Burgh. Two of these belong to the Flesher Incorporation and are the only slaughter-houses in operation at the present time.

The number of animals killed in these two slaughter-houses during the year 1947 is shown in the following table:—

#### YEAR 1947.—RETURN OF CARCASSES TOTALLY OR PARTIALLY CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

Class of Animal	Total Slaughtered	Carcasses Totally Condemned	Carcasses Partially Condemned	Weight (in lbs.) of Condemned Meat and Offal
Cattle . . . . .	46,139	496	381	346,849
Sheep . . . . .	91,114	63	55	9,595
Pigs . . . . .	129	17	10	2,867
Calves . . . . .	2,950	57	3	3,627
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	140,332	633	449	362,938
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

In addition to above, 473 lots of organs or offal were condemned, weighing 156,804 lbs., so that the total weight of condemned meat and offal was 519,742 lbs.

*Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Act, 1928.*—There were no prosecutions during the year 1947. The necessary licences were issued for the use of the mechanically-operated instrument.

#### DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS SERVICES.

The routine work necessary under the various Acts and Orders was duly carried out.

During the year 1947 no outbreaks of contagious diseases occurred.

## CHAPTER III.

## STATISTICAL COMMENTARY.

*Appendix Tables XVI-XVIII.*

## POPULATION.

The population of the City has been estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1947 as 187,751, as compared with 176,939 in 1946, and an average of 164,514 during the quinquennium 1942-1946.

Undernoted are the figures for the individual years:—

Year	Population
1947 . . . . .	187,751
1946 . . . . .	176,939
1945 . . . . .	163,108
1944 . . . . .	159,263
1943 . . . . .	159,162
1942 . . . . .	164,100
* Mean of 1942-1946 . . .	164,514

\* Civilian.

**Live-Births.**—The total number of live births during the year 1947, corrected for “transfers,” was 4,124 (3,881 legitimate and 243 illegitimate), equivalent to a rate of 22·0 per 1,000 of population, as against a rate of 20·4 in 1946.

Comparison is made with Aberdeen and all Scotland for the years 1942 to 1947, and the rates are as follows:—

Year	Live Births. Rate per 1,000 of Population.	
	Aberdeen	All Scotland
1947 . . . . .	22·0	22·0
1946 . . . . .	20·4	20·3
1945 . . . . .	15·5	16·9
1944 . . . . .	16·5	18·5
1943 . . . . .	16·0	18·4
1942 . . . . .	16·1	17·6
Mean of 1942-1946 . . .	16·9	18·3

In 1947, the birth-rates in the other principal towns were—Glasgow, 23·3; Edinburgh, 20·3; and Dundee, 23·1.



**Masculinity of Live-Births.**—This term indicates the proportion of male births to female births in any year. The percentage of males to females during 1947 was 100·6, as compared with 109·7 in 1946.

**Illegitimate Live-Births.**—In 1947, the number of illegitimate births was 243, and amounted to 5·9 per cent. of the total births. For all Scotland the rate was 5·6 per cent.

**Still-Births.**—The number of still-births, after correction for transfers, in 1947 was 107 giving a rate of 25 per 1,000 total births, as compared with a rate of 30 in 1946. For all Scotland the rate in 1947 was 31 per 1,000 total births.

### MARRIAGES.

During 1947, there were 2,091 marriages within the City equivalent to a rate of 11·1 per 1,000 of the population. For comparative purposes, the following table is submitted:—

		Marriages.	
Year	Number		Rate per 1,000 of Population
1947 . . . . .	2,091	...	11·1
1946 . . . . .	2,186	...	11·9
1945 . . . . .	2,286	...	12·5
1944 . . . . .	1,646	...	9·1
1943 . . . . .	1,700	...	9·5
1942 . . . . .	2,034	...	11·3
Mean of 1942-1946 . . . . .	1,970	...	10·9

### DEATHS.

The total number of deaths and the death-rate per 1,000 of the population, as also the average age at death, for each of the years 1942 to 1947 are given in the following table:—

		Deaths.	
Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 of Population	Average Age at Death
1947 . . . . .	2,242	11·9	57·3
1946 . . . . .	2,124	12·0	60·3
1945 . . . . .	2,084	12·8	59·6
1944 . . . . .	2,056	12·9	58·4
1943 . . . . .	2,239	14·1	57·5
1942 . . . . .	2,224	13·6	57·9
Mean of 1942-1946 . . . . .	2,145	13·0	58·7

There were 2,242 deaths in 1947 as compared with 2,124 in 1946. The recorded death-rate was 11·9 for 1947 as against 12·0 in 1946. The fall in the death-rate

in 1947 may be attributed to the increase in population due to the return of personnel from the forces.

*The Average Age at Death* of all persons dying during 1947 was 57·3 years, as compared with 58·7 years in the quinquennium 1942-1946. In the quinquennial period 1891-1895, the average age at death was 32·9 years.

An analysis of the deaths at the various age-periods shows that, of the 2,242 deaths in 1947, 150 occurred at ages 85 years and over, or a proportion of 1 in every 15 deaths.

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

Table XVII gives the death-rate from each of the principal infectious diseases and from selected causes since 1856. The principal causes of death at the various age-periods are summarised in Table XVIII.

**Epidemic Diseases.**—These have been referred to in the Infectious Diseases Section of the Report.

**Malignant Diseases.**—Deaths in 1947 from this group of causes numbered 332. During the 1942-1946 quinquennium the average annual number was 294.

**Diseases of the Nervous System.**—In 1947, there were 274 deaths from cerebral hæmorrhage, cerebral embolism, and hemiplegia, and 32 from other diseases of the nervous system. In the preceding quinquennium, the average annual number was 314 and 38 respectively.

**Diseases of the Circulatory System.**—These diseases were, as usual, responsible for the largest number of deaths. There were 754 deaths in 1947, equal to a death-rate of 402 per 100,000 or more than one-third of the deaths from all causes. It may be noted that, of the 754 deaths, 340 occurred in age-groups 75 years and over.

As has been pointed out in previous reports, with the increasing proportion of the population living to greater ages, it naturally follows that deaths from diseases of the heart or blood vessels will become more and more numerous.

**Diseases of the Respiratory System.**—In 1947, the number of deaths from pneumonia was 110, as compared with 90 in 1946, the increase in 1947 being at the under one year age-group. There were 49 deaths at this age-period in 1947, as compared with 24 in 1946.

The death-rate from bronchitis in 1947 was almost equal to the average rate in the 1942-1946 quinquennium, the respective rates being 38 and 40.

**Diseases of the Digestive System.**—In 1947, there were 170 deaths in this group, representing a rate of 90 per 100,000 as compared with a rate of 69 in the preceding quinquennium. Deaths from diarrhœa numbered 96 in 1947 and thus accounted for more than one-half of the deaths under this heading, and mainly occurred under one year of age,

**Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System.**—The rate for 1947 was 39 per 100,000. In the quinquennium 1942-1946, the rate was 62.

**Diseases of Pregnancy and Child-Birth.**—In 1947, there were five deaths classified under this group, including 1 from puerperal sepsis. In 1946 there were 2 deaths.

**Congenital Debility, Prematurity, and Malformations.**—Deaths in this group numbered 93, and are dealt with in detail in the section of the Report relating to the Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

**Senility.**—Deaths assigned to senility or senile dementia, numbered 20, representing a rate of 11 per 100,000.

**Violence.**—Of the 101 deaths from violence in 1947, 18 were attributed to suicide.

TABLE XVI.—ABERDEEN.—MARRIAGE, BIRTH, AND DEATH RATE—1856 TO 1947.  
Per 1,000 of population.

Year	Population†	Marriages		Live Births *			Deaths *			Excess of Births over Deaths	Infantile Mortality Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Births
		Number	Rate per 1,000 of Population	Number	Rate per 1,000 of Population	Illegit. Births per 100 Total Births	Number	Rate per 1,000 of Population	Average Age at Death		
1947	187,751	2,091	11·1	4,124	22·0	5·9	2,242	11·9	57·3	1,882	64
1946	176,939	2,186	11·9	3,762	20·4	7·0	2,124	12·0	60·3	1,638	42
1945	163,108	2,286	12·5	2,830	15·5	10·0	2,084	12·8	59·6	746	54
1944	159,263	1,646	9·1	2,989	16·5	9·2	2,056	12·9	58·4	933	57
1943	159,162	1,700	9·5	2,876	16·0	8·9	2,239	14·1	57·5	637	68
1942	164,100	2,034	11·3	2,904	16·1	8·5	2,224	13·6	57·9	680	67
Mean of 1942-1946	164,514	1,970	10·9	3,072	16·9	8·7	2,145	13·0	58·7	927	58
1941	167,800	2,055	11·4	2,907	16·2	7·5	2,257	13·5	56·2	650	77
1940	172,310	2,370	13·2	2,804	15·6	6·3	2,457	14·3	55·8	347	86
1939	179,628	2,166	12·1	2,977	16·6	6·3	2,083	11·6	57·1	894	59
1938	178,199	1,829	10·3	3,008	16·9	5·6	2,136	12·0	54·5	872	71
1937	177,317	1,721	9·7	3,026	17·1	6·4	2,298	13·0	55·1	728	72
Mean of 1937-41	†	2,028	11·3	2,944	16·5	6·4	2,246	12·9	55·7	698	73
1936-1940	†	1,962	11·0	2,973	16·7	6·2	2,243	12·7	55·4	730	72
1931-1935	171,959	1,590	9·2	3,133	18·2	7·1	2,284	13·3	52·1	849	86
1926-1930	165,956	1,510	9·1	3,263	19·7	8·2	2,207	13·3	49·1	1,056	94
1921-1925	161,622	1,582	9·8	3,763	23·3	8·2	2,303	14·3	44·4	1,460	115
1916-1920	161,568	1,754	10·9	3,479	21·5	10·6	2,439	15·1	41·7	1,040	127
1911-1915	164,324	1,489	9·1	3,959	24·1	10·2	2,752	16·8	38·1	1,207	143
1906-1910	163,620	1,360	8·3	4,505	27·5	9·7	2,512	15·4	37·6	1,993	128
1901-1905	158,082	1,428	9·0	4,872	30·8	8·5	2,763	17·5	34·9	2,109	143
1896-1900	145,740	1,356	9·3	4,636	31·8	8·3	2,644	18·1	33·3	1,992	144
1891-1895	131,627	1,099	8·4	4,114	31·3	9·8	2,539	19·3	32·9	1,575	147
1886-1890	117,587	911	7·8	3,827	32·5	10·4	2,370	20·2	...	1,457	140
1881-1885	108,959	848	7·8	3,712	34·1	10·6	2,159	19·8	...	1,553	126
1876-1880	100,419	788	7·9	3,480	34·7	10·9	2,100	20·9	...	1,380	129
1871-1875	91,941	705	7·7	3,169	34·5	12·1	2,063	22·4	...	1,106	133
1866-1870	84,234	684	8·1	3,010	35·7	12·9	1,978	23·5	...	1,032	133
1861-1865	77,000	624	8·1	2,663	34·6	...	1,915	24·9	...	748	130
1856-1860	73,458	524	7·1	2,397	32·6	...	1,772	24·1	...	625	126

\* Corrected for transferred births for 1911 and for transferred deaths for 1904 and subsequent years

† Civilian Population from 1940 to 1946 inclusive used for death-rate only—See Text.

TABLE XVII.—ABERDEEN.—DEATHS AT ALL AGES FROM SELECTED CAUSES  
(per 100,000 of population).—Years 1856-1947.\*

Year.	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Influenza.	Typhus Fever.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.	Tuberc. Dis.		Dis. of Digestive System (inc. Diarrhea).	Cancer and other Malignant Diseases.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Diseases of the Circulatory System.†
									Respiratory.	Other Tuberculosis.					
1947 . . . . .	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	35	6	90	177	38	59	402
1946 . . . . .	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	40	7	65	175	36	52	390
1945 . . . . .	0	0	6	2	2	4	0	0	43	9	64	177	35	44	383
1944 . . . . .	0	0	3	0	2	4	0	0	48	21	58	167	39	47	387
1943 . . . . .	0	1	3	1	2	28	0	0	46	17	78	189	48	57	386
1942 . . . . .	0	0	9	2	3	2	0	0	46	19	79	187	40	49	367
Mean of 1942-46 . . . . .	0	0·2	4	1	2	9	0	0	45	15	69	179	40	50	383
1941 . . . . .	0	0	11	2	4	8	0	1	48	13	65	169	46	64	362
1940 . . . . .	0	0	12	6	6	16	0	0	50	11	73	164	73	85	379
1939 . . . . .	0	1	12	0	0	0	0	0	38	9	68	162	40	56	306
1938 . . . . .	0	1	11	1	0	3	0	1	38	10	75	154	40	61	301
1937 . . . . .	0	1	10	0	10	37	0	1	40	15	59	164	46	89	339
Mean of 1937-41 . . . . .	0	1	11	4	5	16	0	1	43	12	68	163	49	71	337
Mean of 1936-40 . . . . .	0	1	11	4	7	15	0	1	41	11	69	160	50	73	331
„ „ 1931-35 . . . . .	0	5	9	9	12	18	0	1	52	17	70	159	60	102	276
„ „ 1926-30 . . . . .	0·2	2	10	11	11	21	0	0·2	62	30	78	145	61	100	240
„ „ 1921-25 . . . . .	0	5	11	33	29	27	0	1	88	31	80	140	80	92	195
„ „ 1916-20 . . . . .	0	6	16	22	23	73	0	3	106	43	87	121	99	122	178
„ „ 1911-15 . . . . .	0·2	38	42	56	32	16	0	4	111	49	124	116	101	128	184
„ „ 1906-10 . . . . .	0	6	15	26	42	20	0	2	116	61	115	103	105	116	180
„ „ 1901-05 . . . . .	0·1	8	9	41	47	20	3	4	138	69	162	87	145	125	179
„ „ 1896-1900 . . . . .	0	23	18	35	53	29	0	9	167	70	210	87	172	109	167
„ „ 1891-95 . . . . .	0·4	21	22	63	52	56	1	10	181	72	190	81	210	100	156
„ „ 1886-90 . . . . .	1	14	10	80	66	9	1	15	184	67	202	68	216	100	175
„ „ 1881-85 . . . . .	0·2	13	15	36	67	1	6	13	204	74	185	69	251	82	159
„ „ 1876-80 . . . . .	1	35	30	28	66	2	19	29	223	101	194	61	286	72	146
„ „ 1871-75 . . . . .	48	68	30	53	68	5	20	35	243	107	214	56	281	60	136
„ „ 1866-70 . . . . .	4	71	5	50	62	8	62	49	298	130	259	59	238	70	122
„ „ 1861-65 . . . . .	36	93	49	51	62	12	176		274	128	280	57	220	59	122
„ „ 1856-60 . . . . .	40	118	54	70	69	12	109		322	179	203	56	182	58	111

\*Corrected for transferred deaths in 1904 and subsequent years.

†From 1911 onwards, Cerebral Embolism and Thrombosis excluded



TABLE XVIII.—ABERDEEN.—MORTALITY AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS FROM VARIOUS CAUSES.  
(Corrected for transferred deaths.)

Age.	A.—NUMBER OF DEATHS—YEAR 1947.																B.—DEATH-RATE PER 100,000.				
	All Causes.	Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (excl. Tuberculosis).		Tuberculous Diseases.		Malignant Diseases.		Dis. of Nervous Syst. and Sense Organs.		Dis. of Circulatory System.		Respiratory Diseases.		Dis. of Digest. System (incl. Diarrhoea and Enteritis).		Dis. of Genito-Urinary System.		Dis. of Pregnancy and Child-birth.		Violence.	Miscellaneous.
		Principal Epidemic.	Other Infections.	Respiratory.	Other Tuberculous.	Cereb. Hem., etc.	Other Nervous.	Pneumonia.	Bronchitis.	Other Respiratory.	Dis. of Digest. System (incl. Diarrhoea and Enteritis).	Dis. of Genito-Urinary System.	Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Diseases.	Cong. Debility, Malformations, and Prematurity.	Scintily.					
Under 1 year .	263	7	—	1	—	—	5	—	49	5	—	90	1	—	—	90	—	—	9	5	
1-5 years .	19	1	3	1	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	1	
5-15 " .	21	1	2	—	2	—	1	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	
15-25 " .	42	—	—	14	4	—	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	—	1	1	—	—	9	2	
25-35 " .	47	—	1	13	1	4	1	2	10	—	—	1	4	1	2	—	—	—	4	2	
35-45 " .	103	—	3	12	3	25	3	2	21	1	—	2	4	—	1	1	—	—	10	6	
45-55 " .	207	—	5	10	1	48	14	5	59	10	9	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	11	10	
55-65 " .	309	—	1	8	—	70	44	2	106	9	17	5	8	—	—	—	1	—	9	13	
65-75 " .	559	2	3	6	—	120	102	8	214	15	12	3	20	—	—	—	—	—	17	21	
75+ " .	672	2	3	—	—	65	110	4	340	21	27	3	27	—	—	—	19	—	21	14	
All Ages .	2242	13	21	65	12	332	274	32	754	110	72	17	74	1	4	93	20	101	77		
B.—DEATH-RATE PER 100,000.																					
1947 .	1194	7	11	35	6	177	146	17	402	59	38	9	39	0.5	2	49	11	54	41		
Average 1942-46 .	1306	22	14	45	14	179	191	23	383	50	40	17	62	1	3	57	19	58	59		





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